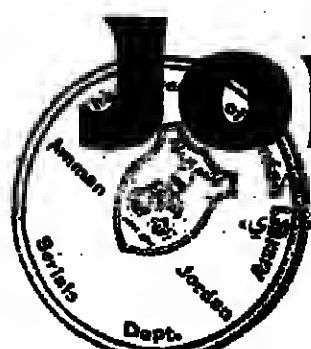


Rebels kill 11 in southern Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — Sixteen rebels and 11 villagers were killed during a rebel attack last week against a village in southern Sudan, the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported Saturday. It said a group of 200 southern Sudanese rebels attacked Lari village, 150 kilometres south of the southern capital of Kordofan province using mortars and machine guns. It said 16 rebels and 11 villagers were killed and several others were wounded during the attack in which rebels looted several shops and cattle. Earlier last week some 20 people were killed during another rebel attack in southern Sudan. Sudanese troops were already placed on alert in parts of the south in the face of what a government spokesman called a "tense situation" created by the rebels led by Colonel John Garang.



Jordanian Times

independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation

جورديان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

Mitterrand, Kohl to set up hot line

FORT DE BREGANCON (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and French President François Mitterrand agreed Saturday to set up a telephone "hot line" to improve coordination on defence and security issues. Mr. Mitterrand told reporters during a break in seven hours of talks with Dr. Kohl they had decided to facilitate communication by installing a "direct and protected telephone line." Referring to security in general, he said: "We have decided... that Franco-German relations in this area in particular should be deepened and the field of our activity should be widened." He did not specify what he had in mind, but French army units have recently participated in major military exercises in West Germany. The ruling French socialist party has suggested that the French nuclear deterrent should be made available for the wider protection of Central Europe, including West Germany. Bonn reacted cautiously to this proposal.

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Syrian, Libyan and Iranian ministers meet

DAMASCUS (R) — The foreign ministers of Syria, Iran and Libya met here Saturday to coordinate their positions on regional issues in advance of a meeting of non-aligned foreign ministers in Angola next month. Syria's Farouq Al Shara'a, Ali Akbar Velayati of Iran and Libya's Ali Abdul Salam Al Tureiki had private talks before they were joined by their advisors, delegation sources said. They did not specify the regional issues to be discussed, but Western diplomats said they would include the Gulf war, Middle East peace moves and Lebanon.

Storm clouds delay Discovery launch

CAPE CANAVERAL (R) — Heavy grey storm clouds forced U.S. space agency officials to scrub Saturday's launch of the shuttle Discovery and try again on Sunday. Originally scheduled to blast off at 8:38 a.m. (1238 GMT) from the Kennedy Space Centre, the countdown clock was stopped to wait for storm clouds which rolled in overnight to disperse. But 34 minutes later, at the end of the "lunch window" in which Discovery could have taken off, launch director Boh Seick scrubbed the mission for the day.

EC seeks meeting with Mandela

LUXEMBOURG (AP) — The envoys to South Africa of the 10 European Community (EC) nations asked Saturday for a meeting with jailed black leader Nelson Mandela. Refraining from calling for sanctions against South Africa after reviewing the situation in a two-day meeting, the envoys instead urged Pretoria to let three EC foreign ministers meet with Mr. Mandela, head of the outlawed African National Congress, when they visit South Africa next week. (Related story on page 8).

Bomb explodes near El-Al office

MILAN (AP) — Two bombs exploded in downtown Milan with in minutes of each other Friday night, including one near the Israeli El-Al airline office that slightly injured three passersby, authorities reported. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the blasts. The explosion on Via Larga, a street a few hundred metres from the Duomo and la Scala Opera house, was outside a building that houses on the fifth floor, the offices of El-Al Airlines.

Greece to end state of war with Albania

ATHENS (R) — Greece's Socialist government has decided to end the state of war with neighbouring Albania in effect since World War II, government sources said Saturday. The decision was a further move by Athens to improve relations with Albania, which have been strained by Greek complaints that Tirana mistreats ethnic Greeks, diplomats said. The government sources said procedures for declaring an end to the state of war were being discussed by Greek officials.

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Tulkarem, Jenin under siege after attacks leave Israeli settler killed

OCCUPIED WEST BANK (Agencies) — The occupied West Bank towns of Tulkarem and Jenin were under curfew and Israeli troops were patrolling the streets and conducting house-to-house searches on Saturday after a Jewish settler was killed and another was wounded in attacks in the town's marketplaces.

The shootings were a strong challenge to the occupation authorities' recent reinstatement of tough security measures in the West Bank, including deportation and detention without trial. Israel says the measures are needed to curb mounting resistance attacks. The incidents occurred on the Jewish sabbath when many armed Israelis roamed through Palestinian towns.

An unidentified man shot dead Andre Alush inside a jewellery store in Tulkarem, and Avi Oved, of Tiberias, was shot three times in Jenin, about 20 kilometres to the north. An Israeli official said Oved was in serious condition. Israeli troops clamped curfews on both towns and mounted searches for the two attackers, reporters said.

The military spokesman's office said it was unable to confirm the reports and police officials in the West Bank said they could not discuss the reports as they involved "security" matters.

Israel Radio said that Mr. Rabin had been briefed on the shooting, and would address the cabinet on the attacks Sunday.

Sources who spoke to the AP on condition they were not identified confirmed the attacks and said the Jordan River bridge crossings to the East Bank had been closed to residents of Tulkarem, Jenin and Nablus. The source said that one of the attackers drove away in a car with a Nablus licence plate.

Police have cautioned Israelis not to enter the West Bank unarmoured but thousands still flock to the volatile area on Saturdays.

On Aug. 10, a Jewish settler was stabbed in a marketplace in Hebron and on July 30 an Israeli civilian was shot and fatally wounded in Nablus.

They were the latest victims of West Bank attacks that have left 10 Israelis dead this year.

Anti-Arab riots erupted last month in the working class town of

Afula after two teachers were killed and police blamed Palestinian commandos.

Last month the Israeli cabinet decided to establish a committee, headed by Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, to consider the possibility of reinstating the death penalty for Palestinians found to have carried out fatal anti-Israeli attacks.

The committee was set up following the kidnapping and killing of two teachers in July. The killings enflamed anti-Arab feeling and sparked riots against Arabs in the area of the town of Afula, close to where the teachers' bodies were found.

The Defence Ministry recently ordered one alleged Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader expelled from the West Bank and on Friday, the army demolished two houses belonging to suspected anti-occupation activists.

Until last year it was rare for Palestinians to use guns in attacks on Israelis in the West Bank, although non-fatal attacks with stones and firebombs were common.

The Peace Now movement, which favours coexistence between Jews and Arabs, issued an announcement on the attacks saying, "the murder in the territories today moves the Jews and Palestinians in the direction of a hell from which there is no return."

East Beirut rejects Syrian move to deploy observers

BEIRUT (AP) — Rival militias clashed in hills above Beirut early Saturday after Christian leaders stone-walled moves to base Syrian military observers deep inside their east Beirut stronghold to monitor a ceasefire.

The tank, artillery and rocket battles lasted for three hours around the war-wrecked mountain village of Souq Al Gharb, 12 kilometres southeast of Beirut.

Christian units of the Lebanese army and the Lebanese Forces, the mostly Christian militia, fought before dawn with rival militias in west Beirut, police said. No casualties were reported.

However, the Voice of Lebanon radio later reported that some shells fired from west Beirut positions hit the coastal highway in the Christian heartland north of Beirut.

This was seen as a violation of the ceasefire that primarily aimed at ending indiscriminate shelling by both sides of civilian areas.

The truce was hammered out by a so-called security committee under Syrian pressure Thursday to end 12 days of random barrages in which more than 320 people, mainly civilians, were killed and 1,100 wounded.

But shortly after midday (0900 GMT) Saturday, armed militiamen kidnapped an undisclosed number of motorists travelling the risky trip on the green line that splits the capital into mostly Christian eastern and mostly Muslim western sectors, police said.

Dany Chamoun, in his early 50s, was unopposed in an election held by the NLP Saturday, the radio station said.

He led the party's 2,000-strong militia called "The Tigers" until it was decimated in July 1980 in a ruthless attack by rival Falangist militiamen under the late Bashir Gemayel.

Dany Chamoun stayed outside Lebanon for several years after the raid, in which some 300 people died, but his father mended relations with the Gemayel clan and helped Bashir to victory in national presidential elections in 1982.

The NLP stayed in the mostly Christian "Lebanese Front" coalition and the remnants of the "Tigers" were absorbed in the "Lebanese Forces," a broad-based militia created by Bashir Gemayel.

During the 1975-76 civil war, Dany Chamoun developed ties with Israel and recently praised the role of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army militia in the south.

He had the party's 2,000-strong militia called "The Tigers" until it was decimated in July 1980 in a ruthless attack by rival Falangist militiamen under the late Bashir Gemayel.

Dany Chamoun stayed outside Lebanon for several years after the raid, in which some 300 people died, but his father mended relations with the Gemayel clan and helped Bashir to victory in national presidential elections in 1982.



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai addresses the Upper House of Parliament on Saturday (Petra photo)

Senate approves laws on income tax, voluntary organisations

Rifai praises cabinet-parliament cooperation

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Upper House of Parliament (Senate) in its last extraordinary session Saturday approved the controversial draft law on income tax and a temporary law for voluntary organisations dealing with urban development.

Both laws were endorsed after the legal and financial committees of both the Senate and the Lower House introduced slight amendments to a number of articles in both laws.

The income tax law had been referred by the Senate to the Lower House for amendment. The Lower House approved the law during its last extraordinary session on Thursday. Both laws will be valid following approval by Royal Decree.

During the Senate's 12-minute meeting, amendments to both laws were endorsed without discussion. The only comment during the Senate's last session was from Deputy Abdul Rahman Khalifah who suggested that the income tax law should be re-written and proof-read before it is distributed to the public since it contained a lot of grammatical mistakes.

Senate Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, who presided over the Senate meeting, thanked deputies for their "positive response" during the extraordinary sessions, which he said has facilitated the legislation of numerous laws.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai said that during the extraordinary meetings hundreds of temporary and draft laws were endorsed and

he said this should be a source of "pride to all of us." Mr. Rifai also said that the Senate's vote of confidence (in the government) has helped the cabinet execute all its economic, financial and taxation plans.

Mr. Rifai went on to say that he hoped the ordinary meetings in the future would continue in the same spirit of cooperation.

Commenting on the new amendments to the income tax law, Director General of the Income Tax Department Salman Tarawneh praised the changes and said they were needed to suit the country's rapid socio-economic development.

Mr. Tarawneh, who was interviewed by the Jordanian News Agency Petra following the Senate session, added that the law gives the ministerial council total rights to evaluate tax exemptions on profits made by Jordanian exports.

The council can exempt the export revenues either partially or totally, he pointed out. He stressed that numerous committees met to outline the new changes which they highly recommended to suit the country's development and progress.

Some of the amendments to the income tax law were welcomed by Jordanian economists who said that they complement the government's policy of boosting the economy and encouraging trade and investment.

Mr. Rifai's attempts to revitalise the land and real estate sector resulted in amendments to the income tax law stipulating that all income and profits generated from selling land and real estate should be considered as capital

profits and revenues exempt from income tax.

The amendments also stipulate that 30 per cent of revenues generated from real estate dealings in Amman Governorate are exempt from income tax while 50 per cent of revenues generated from real estate dealings in other governorates are exempted from tax.

Economic observers here believe that this article will reduce migration and will revitalise socio-economic development throughout Jordan.

An important amendment to the law states that government employees, who were previously totally exempted from paying income tax on their salaries, will have to pay income tax on 50 per cent of their wages.

This amendment was not well-received by government employees who told the Jordan Times that their salaries were already "very low" and that their living conditions were therefore low as well.

But deputies believe that government employees have to pay income taxes so that they are treated in the same manner as private sector employees. Deputies said that income tax on 50 per cent of their salaries will only affect the wages of senior officials who are the highest paid on the government salary scale.

The amendments also totally exempt the following from income tax:

- Official allocations by His Majesty King Hussein.
- Generated income of local authorities.

(Continued on page 2)

Morocco to launch efforts to defuse Tunisia-Libya tension

TUNIS (Agencies) — A senior adviser to King Hassan II of Morocco was expected to arrive here Sunday in an effort by Morocco to mediate a dispute between Libya and Tunisia and defuse tension along the borders of the two North African neighbours, informed sources said here Saturday.

The sources, quoted by the Associated Press, said Mohammed Ridha Ghedira was also to travel in Tripoli, the Libyan capital, after his talks in Tunis.

The Moroccan move came in an apparent response to messages, sent by the Tunisian government to three Arab leaders urging them to intercede with Libya for an end to the crisis over the expulsion of about 25,000 Tunisian workers from Libya.

The Abu Dhabi newspaper Al Itihad reported Saturday that the Tunisian appeal was addressed to President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan of the United Arab Emirates, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and King Hassan, asking them to use their good offices with Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Jadhafi to seek a solution to the crisis.

The messages called for immediate mediation to end the "deterioration" in relations between Tunisia and Libya, stressing that Libya was massing more than 30,000 along Tunisia's southern border, the newspaper said.

Col. Jadhafi has been quoted as threatening to resort to military action against Tunisia if it did not stop its media criticism of his policies.

Diplomatic sources said Tunisia army units were deployed on the frontier, observing Libyan troop movements.

Western diplomats said Tunisian forces in the south were reported to be on full alert, but there was no official confirmation.

In a mass expulsion of migrant workers, Libya has ordered out 25,000 Tunisians, according to TAP. Tunis responded this week by expelling 238 Libyans, many of them diplomats.

The Foreign Ministry accused Libya of plotting endlessly against Tunisia, and said the expulsions were part of a campaign of destabilisation.

There were no official estimates of the number of troops involved in the border build-up on either side.

Arafat charges Murphy mission was a waste of time

CAIRO (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has called a recent trip to the Middle East by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy a waste of time.

In an interview with the daily newspaper Al Ahran, Mr. Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said the trip produced no positive results. "It was a waste of time and an American manoeuvre."

This U.S. manoeuvre was designed in part to sow discord between Jordan and the PLO, the newspaper quoted Mr. Arafat as saying.

"The U.S. manoeuvre could not shake the Jordanian-Palestinian understanding and would not be able to do so," Mr. Arafat told Al Ahran.

He accused Mr. Murphy of breaching diplomatic norms by giving to Israel a list containing names of Jordanian and Palestinian candidates for a joint delegation to start a dialogue with the United States.

He said the United States had failed to keep the promises it had given to Arab leaders to find a solution to the Middle East problem.

Mr. Murphy visited Jordan, Israel and Egypt last week to discuss prospects for a dialogue between Washington and a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation as a first step towards wider talks on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

But his mission met stiff opposition in Israel which has insisted it be included in any peace talks from the start.

However, Mr. Arafat said: "I will not turn down any chances for peace, however weak they may be."

In Washington on Friday, a spokesman for the State Department said the department "certainly does not regard" Mr. Murphy's mission to the Middle East "as a failure."

"We're engaged in a process," deputy spokesman Charles Redman said, "and a process is, by its very definition, going to be incremental and it is unlikely that there will be dramatic breakthroughs. The process, however, continues and we're considering next steps. I'm not going to speculate on what those next steps might be."

Arafat in Algiers

ALGIERS (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat arrived in Algiers on Saturday for talks with Algerian leaders expected to focus on Lebanon. Algeria's APS news agency reported.

"The Arab Nation is living through difficult times particularly in Lebanon," he said on arrival.

"What is happening there is very grave and it is the duty of the Arab Nation to safeguard the security, stability and integrity of Lebanon," he added.

Some commentators said the fact that no major East German spies had been caught since 1979 indicated that Mr. Tiedge had been cooperating with East Berlin for at least six years.

Several newspapers cited reports in security circles that he may have taken with him a list of over 150 West German agents and that this was behind East Berlin's triumphant announcement of a successful drive against spies.

East Germany said on Thursday it had trapped 168 West German spies in the past 18 months, although in the same period fewer than a dozen cases have been reported in the official press.

dozens of "contact people" working for West German intelligence in East Germany, putting them in danger.

Some said there were also rumours in security circles that West Germany's own espionage service had begun urgently recalling agents in the East to protect them.

Mr. Tiedge, 48, was in charge of operations against East German espionage in West Germany's counter-intelligence service, the so-called Office for the Protection of the Constitution.

East Berlin announced on Friday he had sought political asylum there, three days after he disappeared from his home in Cologne in the midst of a hunt for three other wanted spy suspects.

Bonn spyhunter's defection — 'worst security disaster'

BONN (R) — The defection of top spy-hunter Hans Joachim Tiedge to East Germany was called the biggest disaster for West German security since the 1940s as politicians and the press on Saturday took stock of the damage he would cause.

While many newspapers voiced fears for the safety of Western undercover agents in Eastern Europe, security experts from the major parties demanded a ruthless investigation of the affair and commentators predicted it could rock the government.

Opposition Social Democratic (SPD) leader Hans-Jochen Vogel said West Germany's intelligence services had made themselves look "utter and complete fools."

"This is the most serious blow to the security of the Federal Republic since 1949," he added in a reference to the year the republic was founded in the wake of World War II.

Federal Prosecutor Kurt Rebmann summed up the evident horror and anger of the authorities when he said Mr. Tiedge's defection amounted to "an extremely serious case of treason."

Mr. Rebmann said in a newspaper interview that Mr. Tiedge had access to all areas of top-secret West German intelligence, work and could tell East Berlin everything it ever wanted to know.

Several newspapers quoted security sources as saying there were fears Mr. Tiedge could name

Gunman killed, 2 held in clash with Cairo police

CAIRO (R) — Police shot dead one man and arrested two others suspected of firing on a police car Saturday in the Cairo suburb of Maadi, where an Israeli diplomat was murdered last week, police sources said.

Police set up a network of road blocks around Cairo early Saturday after gunmen opened fire on a parked police car before fleeing in a car bearing stolen police number plates, the sources said.

The suspected were speeding along the highway to Suez when they were ambushed by police. One of the attackers was killed in an ensuing shootout and the other two arrested.

The sources said the two men confessed to having 16 accomplices, who were now being rounded up. They declined to say whether any police officers were hurt.

It was not immediately clear if there was any connection between Saturday's incident and the shooting in Maadi last Wednesday of Israeli embassy attaché Albert Atighji.

Police have stepped up patrols in and around Maadi since Mr. Atighji was shot dead by three

gunmen while driving to work from his home in the fashionable suburb. His wife and secretary were wounded in the attack.

Police are still interrogating an Egyptian suspect, Osama Ali, whose car was believed to have been used in the killing.

It was the first political assassination in Egypt since President Anwar Sadat was gunned down during a military parade in October 1981.

A previously unknown group calling itself "Egypt's Revolution" claimed responsibility for the attack and vowed to continue killing Israeli diplomats until they leave Egypt.

Egypt is the only Arab country to have diplomatic relations with Israel, established after they signed a U.S.-sponsored peace treaty in 1979.

Many foreign diplomats, including Israeli embassy staff, live in Maadi, a fashionable suburb of

tree-lined avenues and villas along the River Nile. Police further tightened security around American and Israeli officials living in the area after Saturday's attack.

Police officials said Saturday's shooting, despite elaborate security precautions since the killing of the Israeli attaché, constituted an open challenge to the country's police force.

"I have not heard of any shooting at all," spokesman Isaac Bar-Moshe said.

Reporters at the scene of Saturday's incident saw road blocks manned by black-helmeted policemen armed with sub-machine guns at key intersections of the fashionable suburb.

Eyewitnesses said pedestrians and cars were stopped and searched for identification in other streets throughout the capital where more than 12 million people live.

Meanwhile a Gulf air plane was delayed for two hours at Cairo airport Saturday after a flight attendant found a bomb threat scribbled on a toilet mirror with a bar of soap, police sources said.

They said all 203 passengers on flight GF 088, in Cairo on a stopover en route from Tunis to Mombasa, were asked to disembark while police searched the plane. No bomb was found and it took off after a two-hour delay.

2 M.E. airliners land at Munich after bomb threats

MUNICH, West Germany (AP) — A Saudi Arabian and an Egyptian airliner made unscheduled landings at Munich's Riem Airport after receiving bomb threats while on route to the Middle East, police said Saturday.

Police said the Saudi plane was carrying 111 passengers on a flight from Paris to Riyadh and was instructed to land after an anonymous caller telephoned the Saudi Arabian Airlines office in Paris to say there was a bomb on board.

The Saudi Tristar jet landed at about 5.51 p.m. (1551 GMT). No

bomb was found after an extensive security check, and the plane was cleared to depart at 12.32 a.m. (2232 GMT) Saturday.

The second incident involved an Egyptian airliner carrying 130 passengers on a flight from Frankfurt to Cairo.

At about 8 p.m. (1800 GMT), a note was found on the Egyptian plane containing a written bomb threat.

The plane landed at Riem and departed at 1:58 a.m. (2358 GMT) after a security check failed to uncover a bomb, police said.

Morocco frees prisoners to mark Pope's visit

RABAT (R) — A number of Christians held in Moroccan jails, including French, Spanish, Italian and British nationals, were released Saturday in a gesture of clericality to mark Pope John Paul II's visit to Morocco, diplomatic sources said.

Sources close to the Rabat archdiocese said the amnesty declared by King Hassan was specifically for Christians. There are an estimated 50,000 Christians in Morocco.

The exact number of prisoners released was not known but they included 14 French people, nine Spaniards, five Italians and three Britons, the sources said.

Embassies were officially informed of the amnesty by the Interior Ministry Friday.

Turkish court annuls law on land sales to Gulf nationals

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's constitutional court has annulled a government decree permitting the sale of land and property to nationals of Gulf Arab states, the semi-official Anatolia News Agency said Saturday.

It said the court found the decree, which came into force last

August, contravened the article of the constitution enshrining legislative power in the National Assembly.

The decree permitted nationals of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar to buy land and property in urban areas of Turkey.



CROWN PRINCE VISITS RIFAI — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday pays a visit to the Prime Minister for talks with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (Petra photo)

PLO unity a must, Soviets tell Habash

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet officials were quoted Friday as telling a visiting delegation from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) that unity must be restored in the Palestinian liberation movement.

A report by the official news agency TASS said that a delegation led by PFLP leader George Habash was in Moscow from Monday through Friday and quoted the remarks as coming from members of the Soviet Afro-

Asian Solidarity Committee. The PFLP was quoted as making stronger statements, criticising the envisaged dialogue between a Joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and U.S. officials to explore ways of ending the Middle East conflict.

The PFLP was said to have attacked the dialogue as a way of undermining Palestinian unity.

Dr. Habash has long been critical of PLO leader Yasser Arafat. The account on TASS of Soviet remarks during the PFLP visit did

not criticise Mr. Arafat or the PLO outright, but effectively warned any Palestinians to be wary of American influence in the Middle East.

Another PLO official, Mr. Salah Khalaf of Fateh, is currently visiting the Soviet Union. But there were no reports on whether he would meet Dr. Habash while there. The two have not met since the rebellion in Fateh against Chairman Arafat's leadership. Mr. Khalaf is number two to Mr. Arafat in Fateh.

Financial woes, strike threaten TMA

By Al Istair Lyon Reuters

BEIRUT — Financial problems compounded by a month-old pilots' strike are threatening to make Lebanese cargo airline Trans Mediterranean Airways (TMA) one of the biggest commercial victims of the country's 10 years of civil strife.

The privately-owned carrier suspended flights when pilots walked out on July 27 after refusing to accept a TMA proposal to defer payment of part of their salaries.

Company officials say the airline, which in 1984 lost 132 million Lebanese pounds (\$7.3 million at current exchange rate), is now facing extinction, with 1,200 jobs at stake.

"TMA is a private airline and if it cannot operate profitably then it will not operate," TMA board member Najib Abu Haidar told Reuters. "In current conditions neither TMA nor any other airline in Lebanon can operate profitably," he added.

Unlike Lebanon's passenger carrier Middle East Airlines

(MEA), TMA receives no government financial assistance.

For the past six years it has been trying to sell off its ageing fleet of Boeing 707s, but still has seven of them, all mortgaged to its bank lenders and all in need of replacement.

Since 1982, when its facilities at Beirut were destroyed in the Israeli invasion, TMA has operated out of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates and four of its planes are now grounded there.

The pilots' strike straddled the remaining three to Beirut, with no insurance. Company officials charge that one of them was landed in Beirut on a false pretext while on a flight from Sharjah to Basle after the strike began.

But Lebanese Pilots' Union Secretary-General Omar Dabbagh said the plane developed a technical fault and the pilot knew nothing of the strike until he was on the ground.

One of the three 707s was slightly damaged when shells rained onto the airport during artillery exchanges between Falangist and

opposition militiamen last Wednesday.

An MEA Boeing 707 was destroyed in the bombardment and another seriously damaged, while three more will be out of commission for about 10 days after being hit by shrapnel.

MEA officials put the cost of damage to the planes, which are not insured against war risks, as 25 to 40 million pounds (\$1.4 to \$1.7 million).

TMA's pilots believe the airline has exaggerated its difficulties to improve its case for a government rescue loan. They also suspect the management may close TMA temporarily then relaunch it later with a smaller workforce hired on new terms.

Mr. Dabbagh said the union wanted the government to take over the running of TMA, to safeguard jobs and revive its fortunes.

"We believe TMA is a money-maker, but we no longer have faith in the present management," he added.

U.S. AID director to visit Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA (R) — J. Peter McPherson, director of the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) and one of the strongest critics of relief aid distribution in Ethiopia, will visit the famine-stricken country next week.

U.S. embassy sources said Mr. McPherson would meet Ethiopian officials and Western aid workers to evaluate distribution of famine aid during his two-day stay, to

begin on Tuesday.

The visit comes against a background of moves in the U.S. Congress to suspend trade with Ethiopia over allegations it is withholding food from northern areas where rebels are active.

Ethiopia's relief commissioner, Dawit Wolde Giorgis, said in Washington Friday that such an embargo would bring back mass starvation to the country.

Mr. McPherson has frequently criticised Ethiopia for failure to help with transport and storage of food donations received since the plight of its starving people was publicised late last year.

Last month he accused the Addis Ababa government of blocking the use of 100 trucks to deliver more than 100,000 tons of food from its docks to drought-stricken regions in the north.

Katyusha rocket hits northern Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — A Katyusha rocket fired from Lebanon landed in northern Israel Saturday but caused no casualties, a military spokesman said.

"It was part of a whole barrage of Katyushas fired at the security zone in South Lebanon," he said. "One fell in Galilee but we are sure it was meant for the security zone."

U.N. peacekeepers say there have been more than 50 attacks this month on Israeli and the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia in the buffer area.

The spokesman told Reuters the rocket slightly damaged an electric pylon in northern Israel but power was not disrupted. It was the third time Katyushas have landed in northern Israel since most Israeli units were withdrawn from Lebanon more than two months ago.

Residents of the security zone said they were woken before dawn by a loud explosion, apparently from a rocket fired at an Israeli

base near the Lebanese village of Houla, less than two kilometres from the border.

They said heavy shooting followed the blast at Houla, where 50 to 60 Israeli troops are based. A big fire started in the village and the power supply was cut.

Lebanese security sources meanwhile told Reuters in Beirut that Israeli troops and their militia allies withdrew from positions near the town of Hasbaya early Saturday, although the Israeli military governor remained at his headquarters there.

They said Israeli troops wounded a woman with machine-gun fire during a night search of Habariyah village, south east of Hasbaya.

In two attacks Friday, commandos fired rocket-propelled grenades at positions of the Israeli-backed "South Lebanon Army" militia at Ras Al Bayada on coast near the border and in Kfar Tibnah, near Nabatieh, residents said. No casualties were reported.

Lebanese civilians bear brunt of violence

BEIRUT (R) — Even by Lebanese standards, the past two weeks of car bombs and shelling in and around Beirut have taken a huge toll: About 250 killed, hundreds wounded and entire neighbourhoods devastated.

The car bombers turned shops and apartment blocks into smoking ruins in Christian east and mainly Muslim west Beirut, as well as the northern port city of Tripoli.

Falangist and opposition gunmen chose targets at random, pouncing residential areas for four days and succession and hitting mountain villages up to 50 kilometres from the capital.

As they began to clear debris and repair damage after a ceasefire was declared on Thursday, Lebanese civilians asked why they had again been subjected to indiscriminate terror.

"Politically, nothing has been changed by this stupid destruction," said Nabil, a 33-year-old west Beirut banker, as he carried buckets of rubble and broken glass from his bombed-out apartment near the city's "Green Line" battlefront.

"It was unbelievable, hundreds of shells crashed into our area Monday night... we managed to flee our home a few hours before it was bombed," he said.

Residents said shells and rockets had wreaked havoc over a wider area than at any time in the last decade of civil war. As usual, almost all the casualties were civilians.

"The areas being hit were not the regular ones," said a 37-year-old Shi'ite Muslim teacher whose family spent long hours huddled in corridors waiting for the guns to pause.

"Usually, the militias give us a few hours respite in the morning so we can go to the shops, but this time they hit at times we didn't expect," she said.

"We have reached the limit. It is unbearable. I have become more afraid. I just can't get used to it," she added.

Some east Beirut Christians, however, said they were inured to the violence and never thought of leaving.

"We are used to this kind of life," said Henri, as he added an extra layer to the barricade of concrete blocks protecting his spare-parts shop.

"The war will go on. People will put up with it," said Joseph Ghosn, a 46-year-old pharmacist. "I didn't go into a shelter, but every night I drink whisky or a rak."

A Christian hawk manager bitterly criticised militia leaders for cynicism and greed.

"People have lost faith in leaders on both sides," he said. "When the war started in 1975, there was faith. We were all fighters and we paid for ammunition from our salaries. Now each militia chief drives his own Mercedes."

Echoing his views, a Muslim merchant said: "I hate the Muslim bosses as I hate the Christian bosses. They are all traitors."

As the hospitals filled with shelling victims mutilated by burns or shrapnel wounds, former Prime Minister Selim Hoss denounced the fighting as unjustifiable in any terms.

"What do you say to a mother whose child has been killed by a shell? That her child was a martyr? In what cause?" he asked.

"Will this mother believe as if we tell her that her child's death was a result of Arab summits, of a tour by an American envoy, of cabinet meetings?"

"We have lost count of the victims. Human beings, who have even lost the right to be counted in the daily toll of horror, no longer have any value," Mr. Hoss declared.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 77311-19	22:00 — Evening Show Contd. 23:00 — News Summary 23:57 — News Headline 24:00 — Close down
MAIN CHANNEL	
11:00 — Koran	
11:30 — Live transmission of prayers from Mecca	
14:30 — Religious programme	
14:45 — Children programme	
15:00 — Cartoon film	
16:30 — Give Me a Break	
16:45 — Religious programme	
17:30 — Live transmission of prayers from Mecca	
19:45 — Programme Review	
20:00 — News Programme	
20:35 — Local Comedy	
20:45 — Arabic Series	
21:45 — Programme Review	
22:00 — News in Arabic	
23:10 — Programme Contd.	
FOREIGN CHANNEL	
17:30 — Champs-Elysees	
19:00 — News in French	
19:15 — Le vent du large	
19:30 — News in Hebrew	
20:00 — News in Arabic	
20:30 — Rohda	
21:10 — Documentary: Sleep from A to ZZZ	
22:00 — News in English	
22:30 — Love Boat	
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & party on 95.60 KHz, SW Tel: 77411-19	
07:00 — Light Music	
07:30 — Newsweek	
08:00 — Morning Show	
08:30 — News Summary	
09:00 — Pop Session Contd.	
10:00 — Pop Session Contd.	
10:30 — Pop Session Contd.	
11:00 — News Bulletin	
11:30 — Instruments	
12:00 — Science Report	
12:30 — Concert Hour	
13:00 — News Summary	
13:30 — Instruments	
14:10 — Jazz Hour	
14:30 — News Summary	
15:00 — Instruments	
15:30 — News Summary	
16:00 — Instruments	
16:30 — Old Favourites	
17:00 — Listeners' Choice	
18:00 — News Summary	
18:30 — News Summary	
19:00 — Newsweek	
19:30 — Date with a Star	
20:00 — Evening Show	
21:00 — News Summary	
21:30 — Evening Show Contd.	
22:00 — News Summary	

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	
CIRCUS	
* Hungarian circus at Hussein Youth City. 2 performances a day.	
* Italian circus. Between 6th and 7th Circle near Jordan Electricity Authority.	
CINEMA	
* "Le vent du large" at 7:45 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267	
American Centre 644371	
American Centre Library 641320	
British Council 637009	
French Cultural Centre 637009	
Goethe Institute 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre 644203	
Spanish Cultural Centre 634039	
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777	
Haya Arts Centre 665195	
Hussein Youth City 6671816	
Y.W.C.A. 641793	
Y.W.M.C.A. 644251	
American Municipal Library 637111	
University of Jordan Library 843555	
MUSEUMS	
Balfour Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Jal'a (Clashed Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.) Closed Tuesdays.	
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Jordanian artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century Orientalist artists. Mountazah, Jabal Leuwidh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630122.	
Martyn's Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.	
CHURCHES	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 624950.	
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Leuwidh. 637440.	
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein. 661757.	
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali. 623541.	
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman. 678906.	
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. 771331.	
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. 77261.	
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. 771751.	
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsieh. 81634.	
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabal Amman. 6th Circle. (Rev. N. Smith). Tel. 811295.	
Rabbi's Congregation (International. Inter-denominational): meets in the Church of the Redeemer. Jabal Amman. Tel. 663249.	
PRAYER TIMES	
04:40 — Fajr	
06:07 — (Sunrise) Duha	
12:39 — Dhuhr	
16:16 — Asr	
19:46 — Maghrib	
20:35 — Isha	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

UREN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alfa information department at the "Uren Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

10:15	Agaba (RJ)
10:20	Berlin, Larnaca (RJ)
10:30	Kuwait (RJ)
10:30	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:40	Cairo (RJ)
10:45	Jeddah (RJ)
10:50	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:15	Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
11:15	Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)
11:45	Cairo
11:45	Kuwait (RJ)
11:50	Tripoli, Larnaca (LN)
11:55	Baghdad (IA)
12:15	Agaba (RJ)
12:15	Beirut (MEA)
12:15	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
12:15	Paris, Brussels (RJ)
12:30	Kuwait (RJ)
12:30	Cairo (RJ)
12:35	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
12:40	Athens (RJ)
12:45	London (RJ)
12:50	Rome (RJ)
12:55	Athens, Damascus (RJ)
13:00	Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
13:20	Frankfurt (RJ)
20:30	Frankfurt (LH)
20:55	London (BA)
01:25	Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

06:20	Frankfurt (LH)
06:40	Agaba (RJ)
06:50	Damascus, Paris (RJ)
10:20	Damascus, Rome (RJ)
11:20	Larnaca, Beirut (RJ)
12:00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
12:05	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:30	Athens (RJ)
13:15	Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
13:30	Kuwait (RJ)
14:15	Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
14:30	Cairo (RJ)
14:50	Kuwait (RJ)
15:35	Kuwait (RJ)
16:00	Agaba (RJ)
16:30	Larnaca, Tripoli (RJ)
18:30	Damascus, Beirut (RJ)
20:00	Damascus, Larnaca (RJ)
20:30	Kuwait (RJ)
21:00	Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
21:00	Cairo (RJ)
21:10	Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
21:10	Baghdad (RJ)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port

21:30	Abu Dhabi (RJ)
21:55	London (BA)
23:50	Bangkok (JR)

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— Koh Jin
— Santa I
— Phosco
— Vidstra Prang
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WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A slight decrease in temperature is expected, still it will be hot, with north-westerly moderate winds. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

Low/high temperature in deg.C

Amman	25/38
Agaba	27/41
Damascus	27/41
Jordan Valley	26/40

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 40.4, Agaba 40. Humidity readings Amman 22 per cent, Agaba 24 per cent.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Saturday rates
Local selling rates in file

Bahraini dinar	1118/ 1026.3
Dutch guilder	124/ 125
Egyptian guinea	255/ 259.3
French franc	457/ 46.1
Indo-Chinese	356.6/ 365
Japanese yen (for 100)	163.3/ 163.3
Kuwait dinar	1275.6/ 1282.3
Lebanese lira	21.3/ 22.6
Omani rial	1112.3/ 1117.3
Ptani rial	1054/ 106.1
Saudi riyal	105.3/ 105.9
Swedish crown	46.6/ 47
Swiss franc	170.4/ 171.8
Syrian lira	34/ 34.9
UAE dirham	105/ 105.4
U.K. sterling pound	538.6/ 542.9
U.S. dollar	384/ 386.5
W. German mark	139.5/ 140.6

Lawzi, Iraqi parliamentarians discuss agenda for IPU talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi Saturday received Mr. Jibril Jergis, the head of an Iraqi parliamentary delegation, and the accompanying members for discussions on bilateral relations, particularly in the parliamentary field. Mr. Jergis arrived here Friday at the head of an Iraqi parliamentary delegation for a three-day official visit to Jordan.

During their meeting with Mr. Lawzi the delegation reviewed the agenda for the 74th conference of the International Parliamentary Union (IPU), which is due to be held in the Canadian capital of Ottawa. They also discussed coordinating Jordanian and Iraqi stands vis-a-vis the subjects to be discussed, particularly the Palestine question and the Iran-Iraq war.

Attending the meeting were senior members Mr. Walid Salah and Thouqan Al Hindawi, par-

liamentary secretary general Hani Kheir and the Iraqi Charge d'Affaires in Amman Mohammad Hussein Al Saffar.

Also on Saturday Palestine National Council (PNC) Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Saeh received the Iraqi parliamentary delegation and discussed with them means of cooperation and coordination between the Iraqi and Palestinian delegations to the IPU conference.

Later on Saturday, the deputy-speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, Ismail Hijazi, received the Iraqi delegation. During the meeting, the two sides discussed Arab issues, the Palestinian problem and Iran-Iraq war.

Also discussed was the coordination of work among Arab parliaments to unify the stands of Arab parliamentarians in all Arab and international issues.



Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi (center right) Saturday holds talks with a visiting Iraqi parliamentary delegation (Petra photo)

Temperatures expected to drop over holiday

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Sunday is expected to witness a gradual drop in temperatures and the thermal depression which started on Wednesday is expected to recede as of Monday. Meteorology Department Director Ali Abanda said Saturday. Dr. Abanda said the latest heat wave reached a peak on Friday night and Saturday morning during which the minimum temperature remained above 26 degrees Centigrade with little or no breeze.

However, a gradual drop in temperature started as of Saturday night and is expected to drop further to reach the normal summer average by Monday, signalling the end of the heat wave, he said.

Dr. Abanda told the Jordan

Times that during August the Kingdom witnessed three consecutive thermal depressions, one of which was the first of its kind since 1932.

"During this month, Jordan was affected by three rare thermal depressions. The first one hit the region from Aug. 10 to Aug. 13 whilst the second took place from Aug. 14 until Aug. 16 and the present one, which started on Aug. 21, is expected to end on Aug. 25," he said.

Dr. Abanda noted that it is rare for three thermal depressions to occur in one month.

The amphitheatre area in downtown Amman registered 44 degrees Centigrade on Saturday, temperatures in Azraq reached 45 degrees and the Jordan Valley and Aqaba respectively registered 43 and 42 degrees Centigrade.

Nuseibeh urges public to support local industries

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Hazem Nuseibeh Saturday called on the public to support and encourage local industries saying that such support strengthens the Jordanian economy.

Dr. Nuseibeh, who deputised for Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai in visiting the Jordanian industrial exhibition currently being held at the Amman Development Corporation premises, added that the government will

continue to support local industries in implementation of His Majesty King Hussein's directives.

Dr. Nuseibeh toured the various sections of the exhibition and expressed his satisfaction at the high standard and variety of these industries. During his visit, Dr. Nuseibeh was briefed on the development of local industries and the support and protection they receive from the Jordanian government.

Ad hoc committee completes seed purchases from farmers

AMMAN (Petra) — The ad hoc committee for purchasing seeds from Jordanian farmers, which was formed by the Ministry of Agriculture, stopped buying seeds as of Thursday. Under Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture Salem Al Lawzi said Saturday. The committee has purchased

35,477 tonnes of grain and 3,040 tonnes of grain seeds in addition to 2,881 tonnes of barley for fodder, 506 tonnes of barley seeds and 3,579 tonnes of lentils.

The quantities purchased this year have exceeded the quantities purchased by the government last year, he added.

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U.S. university team visits Public Security Department

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the criminal justice department of California University in the United States Saturday paid a visit to the Public Security Department (PSD) where they met with PSD Director Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali.

Lt. Gen. Majali reviewed the security situation in the country pointing out the wise policy which Jordan is following under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein in combating international terrorism and in building brotherly and strong relations with Arab and foreign countries.

He also referred to the role which the PSD plays in apprehending narcotic traffickers and violators of security. Lt. Gen. Majali praised the efficiency of PSD personnel in combating crime, apprehending criminals and ensuring security and stability for the public. The delegation then paid a visit to the criminal investigations division and were briefed on the division's role in crime prevention.

They also visited the Princess Basma women's police institute and watched exercises and training in judo and karate. The delegation expressed their thanks to Lt. Gen. Majali and his aides for the hospitality and warm welcome accorded to them and paid tribute to the progress which the PSD has achieved.

Accompanying the delegation on their tour were PSD Assistant Director Brigadier Issa Al Omar and a number of public security department heads.

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King receives cables of thanks, support for directives to develop rural regions

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Court has received a large number of cables expressing loyalty, gratitude, pride and appreciation for His Majesty King Hussein's directives to the government to improve the socio-economic conditions of people in the rural and Badia regions in Jordan.

The directives were issued to coincide with the 'Eid Al Adha, which marks the end of this year's pilgrimage to Mecca, and which falls on Monday.

GUVS president thanks King

President of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) Abdullah Al Khatib also sent a

cable of thanks and appreciation to King Hussein in which he thanked the King personally and on behalf of the GUVS executive board for his generous contribution which is aimed at supporting the activities of voluntary societies and enabling them to implement their charitable and humanitarian programmes.

Dr. Khatib also congratulated King Hussein on the occasion of 'Eid Al Adha sending his best wishes for further success in leading and developing the country.

Joint committee forms group to evaluate W.Bank agriculture

AMMAN (J.T.) — The joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee, which concluded its meetings here last week, has set up a specialised working group to carry out a comprehensive evaluation of all the studies and researches conducted on the agricultural situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

The working committee will also study proposed plans and programmes for marketing agricultural products from the West Bank and Gaza Strip and will discuss means and methods to ensure that these agricultural products are marketed in Arab countries.

The news agency added that the committee, during its meetings, discussed priority issues in the occupied territories, particularly issues pertaining to health and housing projects in addition to creating job opportunities for

unemployed graduates and maintaining Arab control of electric power stations in the West Bank.

The Jordanian side to the meetings included Minister of Interior Hassan Al Kayed, Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher Kanaan and Minister of Foreign Affairs Taher Al Masri.

The Palestinian side to the joint committee talks was composed of Khalil Al Wazir, deputy commander of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) forces, head of the Occupied Territories Affairs Department Mohammad Milhem and Bishop Elias Khouri who is a PLO Executive Committee member.

Also attending the meeting were representatives of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs, the PLO's Department of Occupied Territories Affairs and the general secretariat of the joint committee in addition to the committee's secretary

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Royal Decree approves envoy to Portugal

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree has been issued endorsing the appointment of Tareq Madi as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Portugal.

Decree endorses appointment

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree has been issued endorsing a cabinet decision to appoint Mr. Youssef Bouran as an ambassador at the Foreign Ministry.

Rifai issues circular to regional employees

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Saturday issued an official circular in which he asked all government employees, who are assigned to certain duties in the governorates and districts, to brief administrative governors on the nature of their assignments. He also called on them to supply the governors with copies of reports on particular administrative units.

Ministry announces 'Eid prayer time

AMMAN (Petra) — 'Eid Al Adha prayers will be held in all mosques at 6:37 a.m. on Monday, an announcement by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs said Saturday.

National troupe to perform at arts festival

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is to take part in the ninth international conference of fine arts scheduled to be held in Austria on Aug. 27. The 15-member Jordan national folklore troupe will represent Jordan in the event and will present performances reflecting Jordanian folklore and popular arts. Some 18 folklore troupes from various countries will participate in the festival.

University students to visit W. Germany

AMMAN (Petra) — West German Ambassador in Amman Herwig Bartels Saturday hosted a reception at his residence for a delegation of students from the University of Jordan who will pay a visit to West Germany on Aug. 31. Mr. Bartels delivered a speech in which he hailed the strong relations linking Jordan and West Germany and expressed his hope for increasing cooperation between West German and Jordanian universities. The university president, Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali, thanked the West German government for organising the visit and expressed his hope that it would be a chance for further bolstering bilateral relations. The delegation comprises 25 students from the university.

Muasher forms cement administration team

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Al Muasher has named an interim administrative committee for the Jordan Cement Factories Company to be headed by Under Secretary of the Ministry of Finance Abdul Majid Al Jassem. The committee also groups Dr. Saleh Al Khasawneh, under secretary of the Ministry of Labour, Mr. Mohammad Saleh Al Hourani, director general of the Cities and Villages Development Bank, Dr. Ziad Fariz, secretary general of the Ministry of Planning and Mr. Munther Al Masri, director general of the Vocational Training Corporation.

Jordan to attend IESCO conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the second general conference of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (IESCO) scheduled to be held in Islamabad, Pakistan, on Sept. 3. Jordan will be represented in the three-day conference by a delegation to be led by Minister of Education Abdul Wahhab Al Majali.

Court sentences hashish dealer

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Ziyad Ali Ahmad to six-months imprisonment and fined him JD 50 for dealing in hashish. The general military governor endorsed the sentence.

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Sunday's Economic pulse

Market oriented or centrally managed economy?

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

OFFICIALLY, the Jordanian economy is free, and the individual initiative is protected. In practice the situation is quite different.

The public sector employs around fifty per cent of the manpower in the country. It provides almost half of the capital investments. All major shareholding companies are partially owned by the government, and the very major ones are practically government departments with chief executive officers and board of directors members being appointed and dismissed by the government.

We have a market with supply and demand in force but the government fixes the sales price of all basic and important

commodities and services, whether imported or locally produced, including but not limited to, food stuff, transportation, medicine and medical services, water, electricity, spare parts, fuel and building materials. The officially priced goods and services make up over 60 per cent of the overall expenditure on both consumption and capital formation.

The government is involved in trading, manufacturing, hotels, banking and other related activities. Its share of success in managing these activities is not a source of pride to any government.

Public sector overgrowth during the last ten years was due to the availability of funds

from Arab aid and external borrowing, in one hand, and to the urge for rapid economic development in the other.

But things now are different: Arab financial support declined steadily during the last four years; loans are becoming more expensive; and we have had a lot of fast development to digest and large scale projects to consolidate.

Therefore the Jordanian government must rediscover the virtues of the private sector, because private investment is needed to fill the gap. Revitalisation of the private sector is therefore a timely policy, called for by actual circumstances, and by objective assessment. It is not a mere slogan raised by

the government of the day which could be reversed by another administration.

The first step is an organised disengagement between the public sector and the private sector. We badly need to draw the line between the area which must be left to the private sector and that which must remain a government responsibility.

The grey area between the public and the private sectors is where we badly need to set non-ambiguous parameters.

There is no doubt that the public sector has a major role to play in the development efforts. The question is where this role should stop.

Those who belong to the public sector school of thought think that economic activities

are loose and that the government should expand its role and strengthen its control. Those who support the market economy believe that the government has already exceeded its limit. Less government intervention is the prevailing trend in Third World countries during the eighties. This trend is gaining momentum in Jordan, but the resistance is formidable.

It is obvious that the political decision to support the private sector has been taken. The present government committed itself to more incentives, protection of, and freedom for the private sector. However it is equally obvious that bureaucracy does not like this pol-

icy, and will make the implementation very hard. It remains to be seen whether the government will push forward towards more privatisation or that it will yield to compromise.

If the private sector becomes convinced that the government is serious about the implementation of its declared policies, the Jordanian economy may witness a new stage of economic recovery and progress led by private investment. The private sector has a lot of idle resources which could be activated at a very low cost to public funds.

Clarity is of the essence for the future. The private sector can live with a mixed economy provided it is not mixed up.

Pacific nuclear-free zone?

ANTI-NUCLEAR movements have gained accelerated momentum recently in the Pacific region. The United States, U.K. and France have territories in the Pacific and they are being held responsible for conducting over 210 atmospheric and underground nuclear weapons tests in the area. The overall apprehension is that continuous nuclear tests would eventually lead to radioactive pollution of the Pacific and cause ecological damages, particularly to the fish stocks. The anti-nuclear lobby has succeeded in influencing to a significant level government policies and decisions of the South Pacific Forum nations — a grouping of 13 Pacific island nations which includes Australia, New Zealand, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Tavalu, Western Samoa, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Tonga and Nauru.

New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange's decision last year not to allow port calls for U.S. nuclear warships was a direct result of the pressure brought to bear upon his government by anti-nuclear lobbyists. The recent South Pacific nuclear-free zone treaty, initiated by Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke and successfully concluded by the South Pacific Forum nations is yet another beautiful feather in the cap of the anti-nuclear activists.

The South Pacific nuclear-free zone treaty bans the possession, testing and use of nuclear weapons by signatory states in the South Pacific. The treaty also forbids nuclear explosions for any purpose and dumping of nuclear wastes in the Pacific. The nuclear-free zone encompasses a vast area of the Pacific, stretching from the equator to the Antarctic and from Australia to South America.

But the forum countries would probably have to face two major problems. Firstly, the treaty does not include the entire Pacific basin, but only the South Pacific region. As such it is doubtful whether the U.S., U.K. and France would be eager to apply the treaty to their Pacific territories and sign the protocols, agreeing not to use or test nuclear weapons in the Pacific or dump nuclear waste there. Secondly, will Australia, a signatory to the treaty, continue to supply uranium to France, encouraging her to go on conducting nuclear tests on Mururoa atoll in the South Pacific? Only time will tell. Much more vigorous anti-nuclear campaigning and lobbying, not only in the forum countries but in the U.S., U.K. and France, may be required before the South Pacific nuclear-free zone can become a workable reality.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Spanish move understood

SPAIN'S DECISION to establish diplomatic relations with Israel is a great disappointment to the Arabs who had believed that historical and cultural ties with the Spanish people would never permit such move under any circumstances. It is really sad to see our Spanish friends taking such a step at a time when they witness continued Israeli occupation of Arab lands and arbitrary actions against the Arab people of Palestine.

Two basic elements were certainly behind Spain's decision: Its entry into the European Common Market and the pressure exercised on it from within the European Community in this direction, and the other is the weak Arab situation and the continuous divisions and disputes among Arab states, making them too weak to confront such a challenge.

Spain's foreign minister, in announcing his country's decision, said that relations between Spain and Israel will be established before the end of 1986 and that Madrid looks to this step as one that helps to pave the way for the establishment of peace in the Middle East.

To the Spaniards, we have to say that such a move will not help to achieve peace because the Israeli aggressors have their own expansionist plans in the Arab region which they can never abandon.

To the Arabs we say they have to take a lesson from this case and they should find more effective means of dealing with foreign nations, and should unify their stands and form one strong force to make the world respect their views and their rights.

Al Dustour: European role important

STATEMENTS by Luxembourg Foreign Minister Jacques Poos before his departure after a visit to Jordan represent the European Community's stand towards the Middle East question. We appreciate this stand which favours the Jordan-Palestinian accord and which is characterised by fairness, and we call on European nations to take practical steps towards the achievement of peace in our region.

These statements and this stand represent a real gain for the Arab cause and are really in support of what is right and just. Luxembourg is now current president of the European Community Council and two of the community members are also permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

Mr. Poos said in his statement that he will try to convince the European nations to give clear-cut recognition of the PLO, because of the significant European interests in the Middle East, and because such a move will help give momentum to the peace process.

All these are constructive stands that now await practical steps on the part of European nations to help establish peace in the Middle East.

Sawt Al Shaab: Shame on Libya

LIBYA'S STAND towards Tunisia is to be deplored because it represents a stab in the back of the Arab nation and a blow to efforts aiming to achieve solidarity among Arab countries. Libya, which had earlier announced a strategic alliance with Iran against Iraq, is now resorting to threats and provocations against its neighbour, Tunisia in another drive to further weaken the Arab stand in the face of common enemies.

The massing of Libyan troops along Tunisia's borders represents another Libyan negative behaviour towards the Arab countries and is a painful development in relations among Arab states.

Libya has already expelled thousands of Arab workers, including Tunisian workers, from its territory and is now trying to cover up for this shameful act by creating tension along the borders and threatening an Arab neighbour, adding insult to injury.

THERE IS nasty impulse in our national discourse on the Arab-Israeli issue to proceed from an arguable defense of Israel and its policies to a gratuitous, indiscriminate slur on "Arabs," to think and speak of them collectively, to judge the many by the egregious excesses of the few.

A positive pro-Israel prejudice is understandable when it is in favor of a secure Jewish state as a moral obligation to a people to whom civilisation owes a great debt, a democracy with shared values, a friend. It is also natural enough for this attachment to translate into a tolerance of one or another Israeli government action or policy that works against pro-

claimed U.S. interests (the Lebanese invasion, the West Bank settlements, opposition to the Reagan "peace initiative," distrust of the current defense efforts to build upon Camp David's beginnings.)

But those are issues that can theoretically be dealt with on their merits and on principle. The problem becomes more difficult to deal with when a double standard is introduced — a mindlessly negative, anti-Arab prejudice that would not be tolerated if it were directed at Israelis or at Jews.

It is not so much a matter of a flaw in our national character. It comes down to a matter of familiarity, of understanding, of stereotypical impressions, of television and motion-picture screens and in the written word.

Scholars write of Arab "tribalism" and unsettled "nomadic" instincts. The suggestion is that "Arabs" are somehow incapable of statecraft or stable nationhood. They dress funny, carry guns. Sadat was an exception; Arafat is the rule. Easily, we accept the Israeli definition of every hostile act against Israeli occupation forces as "terrorism" and every imprisoned Shi'ite or PLO-connected Palestinian as a "terrorist."

The point is not that this is a conscious double standard. The point is that there is one. It is reg-

ularly expressed in Middle East grievances and positions we indulge or ignore, seek to understand or feel free to scorn.

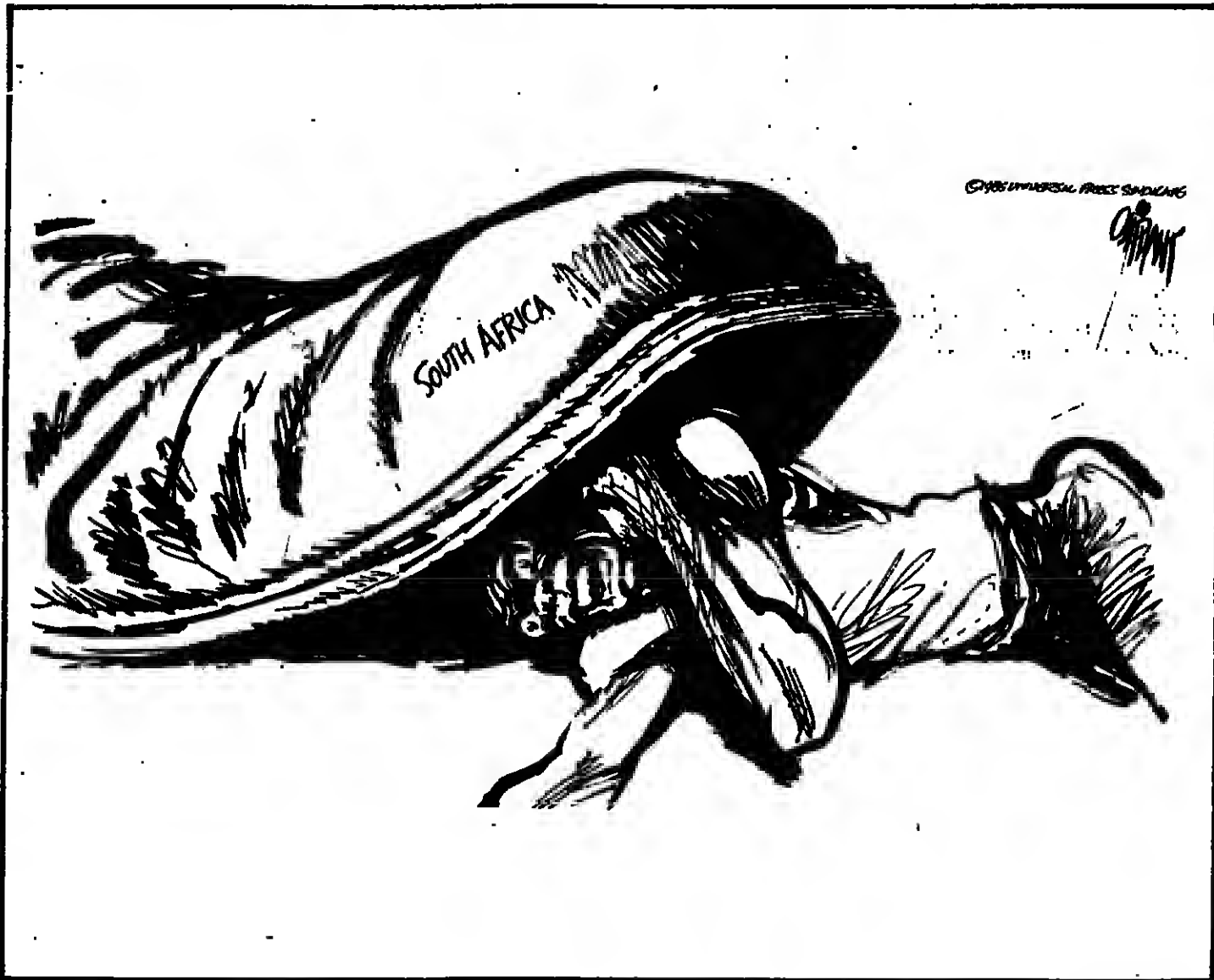
We excuse an Israeli government for its rejection of U.S. peace proposals out of sympathy for its domestic political concerns. So Congress shouts its approval of billions of dollars of unconditional economic and military aid. Jordan's King Hussein, by contrast, is sent to the back of the bus, for all his hard efforts to promote the peace process at great personal and political risk, until he meets not only ours but Israel's requirements as a negotiating partner.

Others among the passengers who had anything nice to say about their captors or their treatment, or saw any symmetry between their plight and that of the

Shi'ites in an Israeli prison, were psychoanalysed as victims of the "Stockholm syndrome."

It was not just okay, but maybe even funny, to make sport of the Shi'ite faith — as in "chicken-Shi'ite" or "when the Shi'ite hits the fan." What you don't know, you can't hurt, was apparently the rule for many. It was not a general rule. But the exceptions were enough in evidence to confirm that there is a double standard at work to the detriment of a balanced public perception of the Middle East — and a balanced U.S. policy.

At the first show of disfavor of this or that Israeli government policy, a cry of "anti-Israel" goes up and the institution of "anti-Semitism" is not far behind. Never mind that it is quite literally the wrong word; Arabs as well as Jews are "Semites" by ethnic origin and by definition. It is enough to note that for bigotry applied to Arabs there is no comparable rebuke — The Washington Post national weekly edition.



Opposition to South Africa sanctions highlights church influence in U.S. politics

By Christopher Hanson
Reuters

WASHINGTON — A leading Christian Evangelist has launched a crusade opposing U.S. sanctions against South Africa, highlighting the increasingly prominent role played by church activists preaching politics from the pulpit.

The Reverend Jerry Falwell met South African president P.W. Botha on Monday and afterwards said his conservative, 7.5 million-strong moral majority would campaign to kill a mild sanctions proposal which has won strong backing in Congress.

The move by Falwell, one of America's most influential television Evangelists, has added to powerful, conflicting pressures exerted by church groups on U.S. foreign policy.

Overseen by elected members of Congress and formulated by a politically minded White House, U.S. foreign policy can be heavily influenced by domestic lobbying. Church groups, determined to

have their say, have taken sides on South Africa, Central America and other issues.

Falwell pledged his organization would spend at least one million dollars on a two-week campaign against anti-apartheid sanctions. The moral majority's message will be broadcast on 100 television stations across the country, he said.

Most political analysts expect Congress to pass the sanctions bill next month, but many believe President Reagan, who so far has opposed sanctions and backed quiet diplomacy to seek reform of apartheid, will veto the bill.

Falwell said moral majority lobbying would be aimed at securing at least 40 senate votes, the number required to sustain a presidential veto.

Liberal churchmen, including black leaders the Rev. Jesse Jackson, a former presidential candidate, and Rev. Walter Fauntroy, the district of Columbia representative in Congress, have lined up on the other side of the apartheid debate.

Their participation in lobbying efforts and protests near the South African embassy in Washington have helped keep pressure on Congress to approve a sanctions bill.

Church pressure is also playing a growing role in U.S. Central America policy.

Witness for Peace, a group opposing U.S. support for anti-Sandinista "Contra" guerrillas, has sent more than 1,500 Americans into rebel areas of Nicaragua over the past two years in a bid to deter or at least publicise guerrilla attacks.

When a boatload of witness workers were kidnapped by Contras earlier this month, several Roman Catholic bishops affiliated with the group accused the White House of backing "terrorism".

Conservative church groups have been helping the White House pursue its campaign against leftist Nicaragua.

After Congress cut off U.S. military aid to the Contras last year, U.S. officials sought private fund-

The Washington Times newspaper, owned by the Reverend Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church, used \$100,000 to create a non-profit corporation, the Nicaragua Freedom Fund. The fund has collected over \$250,000 for non-military aid.

The Christian Broadcast Network, headed by television Evangelist Pat Robertson, has also been fund-raising.

Some U.S. churches have embarrassed Washington by providing sanctuary to hundreds of illegal aliens from El Salvador, Guatemala and other Latin American countries.

The move has publicised close U.S. ties with Latin American countries the church groups say are violent and repressive.

Langhorne Motley, the outgoing U.S. Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, responded to the church criticism in a speech last month, saying it was "time to take politics out of the pulpit and the pulpit out of politics."

GUEST EDITORIAL

Israel, S. Africa — birds of a feather

From Middle East International — London

THE GROWING demand for the imposition of economic sanctions against South Africa will have been noted with particular interest in Israel, which recently (February 1985) and in the closest secrecy, signed with the South African government an agreement for joint development in the field of science and technology. This agreement provides one illustration of the very close relationship between the two governments, a relationship based not only on mutual economic advantage but also on a shared sense of political and ideological affinity. It also has a direct bearing on the question so ardently debated today of whether or not the imposition of sanctions can affect the course of events in South Africa.

The argument against sanctions, whether in South Africa or anywhere else where human rights are transgressed, is that they will not work because someone will always break ranks, either out of political sympathy or in order to steal a march on trading competitors. And we can certainly expect that, just as South Africa itself came to the assistance of Ian Smith's Rhodesia in the 1960s, Israel will do everything in its power to help South Africa if Mr. Botha's government finds itself in difficulties tomorrow. Moreover there is little doubt that many of those who now shout the loudest for sanctions against South Africa, rather than sacrifice their own valuable commercial interests will be prepared to use Israel as a conduit for their exports to South Africa, just as the Americans now channel their arms exports to disreputable friends like Guatemala through Israeli intermediaries.

But sanctions constitute not merely a weapon, one of admittedly doubtful efficacy. They represent also (and it is in this sense that their present advocates would like to impose them) a signal of international opprobrium, of the world's impatience with a regime which too openly disregards the values which the rest of us, however inadequately and often insincerely, profess to uphold. In this context too, the present trend must be of interest to Israel, which shares with South Africa so many of the characteristics which merit condemnation. Until recently, a curious blend of myth and prejudice, coupled with the Western world's remorse over the holocaust, shielded Israel from the condemnation which South Africa's policy of apartheid seemed to invite. But Israel too has its apartheid, practised as mercilessly in the West Bank and Gaza, as in any banutstan. Israel too has its Sharpevilles and its Sowetos, where racism and repression flourish no less starkly, though with less publicity, than in South Africa. And Israel has in men like Ariel Sharon, still a member of the government and a possible future prime minister, and Rafael Eitan of the right-wing Tebiya party — to say nothing of the self-confessed racist Rabbi Kahane — a neo-fascist political wing which is gaining ground rapidly, especially among the younger generation and most of all among religious Jews.

Does this mean that Israel too faces the threat of sanctions? By no means — not because the world approves of its constant denial of the rights of the Palestinians, but because the Congress of the United States, at the beck and call of the powerful pro-Israeli lobby, is always there to protect Israel. But the Israelis try American patience sorely; and if that patience should wear thin, as it has done with such unexpected suddenness towards South Africa, the Israelis would be sharply reminded of two facts to which, shielded as they are from reality, they give too little consideration. In the rest of the world, there would be an overwhelming majority in favour of sanctions as a means of holding Israel to the rule of law. And Israel, with none of South Africa's vast resources and utterly dependent on American aid for its security, its economic viability, for its very survival, is uniquely vulnerable to the threat of international sanctions.

The thought is one which belongs to the uncertain future. But the future, as the South Africans are finding, has a way of coming on us faster than we expect. What could batten its coming would be some indication that the Arabs care enough about Palestine to be active in its defence. Failing that, and so long as the United States allows its policy to be manipulated by the defenders of apartheid in the Middle East, Israel will be safe.

Contemplating your holiday? How about revisiting Jordan?

By Josephine Zanarri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — With Eid Al Adha approaching, many Jordanians are contemplating their holidays. What about a rustic few days in small hotel surrounded by rolling, heavily wooded hills? Or a bird watchers vacation, not on a Spanish beach but in an isolated desert oasis? Or an idealistic holiday in a first class hotel at one of antiquities' most exotic sites? Or a simple few days off in a monastic resthouse with a chance to explore a medieval castle and a charming old-world village?

Yes, you say — "but very expensive". In fact such holidays are much cheaper than a vacation to Cyprus or Turkey. They are all located right here in Jordan. Mr. Mohammad Nur Arrabi, technical assistant of the recently inaugurated Tourist Investment Department points out that holidays in Jordan are obviously much less expensive than those abroad.

First of all he says, "travellers will save on air fares" and secondly "the country itself will benefit as currency will not flow overseas".

The Tourist Investment Department, formerly the Hotels and Resthouses Corporation was recently taken over by the Social Security Corporation and is now headed by Mr. Zuhair Ajlouni.

The change has been a revitalizing one, says Mr. Nur Arrabi who is technical assistant to Mr. Ajlouni.

Since taking over the corporation much re-modelling of existing resthouses and construction of new ones has taken place, adds Mr. Nur Arrabi. The object he says is to encourage both foreign and Jordanian tourists to see this "very special country".

One of the most exciting holidays in Jordan is a leisurely drive down the Kings Highway, possibly the oldest trade road in the world. The highway passes Roman ruins, Crusade castles, and excavations from the earliest dawn of mankind.

With Karak as the destination of the first day, the traveller has time to see Byzantine mosaics in Madaba and Mount Nebo and the thermal springs of Zarka-Ma'in where a new hotel complex is under construction.

Returning to the Kings Highway the road winds on past Wadi Wala, a small stream flanked by oleaners and one of many sites of Bronze age excavations.

Later, the road crosses the breath-taking huge Wadi Mujib, a magnificently rugged canyon.

Further along the route lies

Dhiban, the ancient capital of Moab and site of one of Jordan's most extraordinary archaeological finds, the Mesha stele.

This stone describes the victories of King Mesha over the ever encroaching Israelites. A copy can be seen in the Amman Archaeological Museum.

Karak, with its haunting Crusader castle perched high on the hillside, makes a dramatic vista. Karak has a small and tidy resthouse situated close to the ruins of the castle. Accommodation is reasonably priced — five dinars a single and six dinars a double.

Bookings can be made through the Tourist Investment Department at the Fifth Circle. Both the old town with its traditional provincial atmosphere and the Crusader castle are worth a relaxed day's tour, then on to Petra.

First stop on the way is at Mu'ta and Mazar, site of one of Islam's first victories over the Byzantine forces (632 A.D.). A beautiful mosque commemorates the battle. At Dhat Ras, (off the highway) lie the remains of a small Roman temple and at Khirbat Tanur, a ruined Nabataean one. The present day township of Shobak is the site of yet another Crusader castle. Little of it remains but one of its most interesting features is an extremely deep well cut through rock.

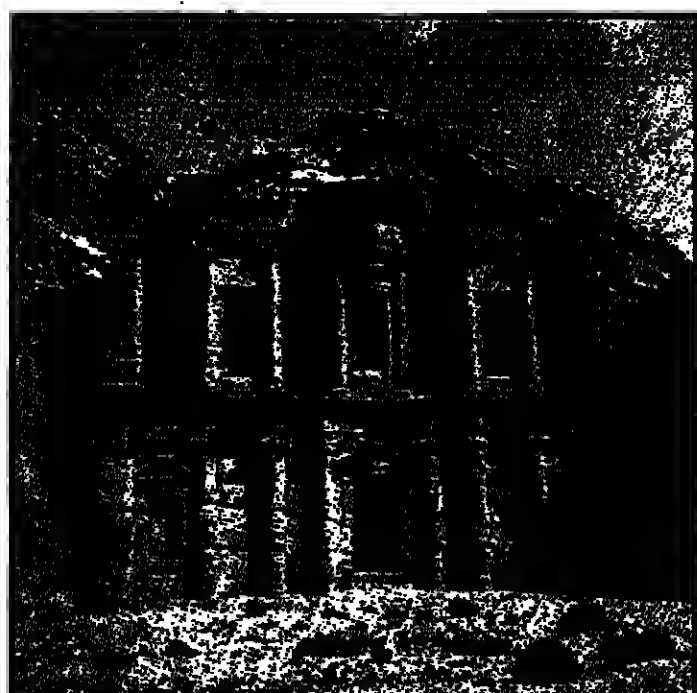
Next stop, the famed Petra. There is a reasonably priced resthouse (bookings through the Tourist Investment Department) and the recently completed Petra Forum. Although managed by the Forum Hotel chain, the staff are mostly people of Wadi Musa.

The hotel offers excellent service, first rate cuisine in a modern, well run hotel which includes a very clean little swimming pool (Bookings through the Amra Hotel). One of the many services offered by the hotel is breakfast at dawn in the highest place of worship in Petra, the view sweeping across Wadi Araba is utterly unforgettable.

Experts say it takes many months to know the different suburbs of Petra, however, it is possible to see the major monuments in one day.

The road from Petra passes majestic desert landscapes before winding down into Aqaba. Long, the only well-known holiday spot for local tourists, Aqaba offers a wide variety of accommodation including three, four-star hotels: The Aqaba Tourist Hotel, Al Kazar and Al Miramar as well as the five-star Holiday Inn. Cheaper lodging is also offered by the Tourist Investment Department at the Aqaba Resthouse.

From Aqaba's beach resorts there is easy access to the scenic



Petra, the monastery



Amra Castle

wonders of Wadi Rum. Four wheel drive jeeps can be hired in Aqaba, also guides.

To enjoy the Kings Highway, take along a guide book as almost each town on the road has a hidden chapter of ancient history. The authority is "The Antiquities of Jordan" by G. Lankester Harding. "Petra" by Ian Browning is a marvellous outline of that extraordinary city.

Whilst a journey down the Kings Highway is a drive through history, a holiday at Azrak combines the past with a glimpse of nature at her most colourful. Azrak, being the only permanent water source in the eastern desert, is home to thousands of migratory birds, many come in their mating plumage.

The spectacle, say experts is unforgettable. Azrak also has two nature reserves one on the marches themselves and the other in the desert area where many threatened species are being reintroduced. More information on Azrak can be obtained from the Royal Society for Conservation of Nature.

Dotted around Azrak are several Ummayyad palaces and bathes, including the well preserved Jazr Amra, with its historic frescoes, and Jazr Hallabat. Further towards Zarka is the eerie basalt city

of Umm Jimal.

The Tourist Investment Department has another rest house at Azrak, prices are also reasonable and the hotel has a swimming pool.

A further area of Jordan ideal for holidays is the mountains north-west. The Tourist Investment Department has a resthouse at Dibe'en which should be completed next month and Ajloun has a small three star hotel, overlooking the 'Al Rabadih castle. Temperatures are moderate in these wooded areas and day trips to Jerash and the Decapolis cities of Um Jais, Pella are near at hand. Another interesting day journey is to the thermal springs of Hammah near Irbid.

Mr. Nur Arrabi maintains it is a "shame that Jordanians do not see their own magnificent historical sites before travelling to other countries". He adds that it is "the duty of all Jordanians to know their country and their history".

Holidays in Jordan do not benefit the pocket of the traveller only but the country as a whole. Firstly money is spent within the kingdom and work is provided for rural people close to their families. And Jordanians coming face to face with their varied brilliant history will surely come to marvel at their past.

The ancient Welsh language revived

By Alan Elmsler
Reuter

CARDIFF — After centuries of trying to eliminate the ancient Welsh language, the British government has launched a campaign to preserve it.

"Welsh is making real inroads. Twenty years ago, there were whole areas of Wales where you never saw a sign in Welsh," said a senior government official in the Welsh office.

"Now you can see Welsh posters in Cardiff supermarkets. Welsh is all around us. We hope and believe that its historic decline has been stemmed," he added.

His optimistic view is not shared by militant campaigners of the Welsh Language Society, who for 20 years have waged an often violent battle to gain recognition for the language.

"For all the progress of past years, Welsh is still in catastrophic decline in its traditional heartland," said Karl Davies, society president.

The figures back him up. According to the 1981 national census, just over half a million people in this area of western Britain spoke Welsh as their first or second language, 18.9 per cent of the population. Twenty years earlier, the figure stood at 26 per cent.

In some parts of the industrialized south, centred around the Welsh capital of Cardiff, fewer than five per cent of the population have any knowledge of Welsh. Its heartland remains the sparsely-populated hill-country of the north and west.

From his ramshackle office in the seaside town of Aberystwyth, Davies and his colleagues plotted campaigns for a Welsh-language television channel and bilingual road signs.

Scores of activists paid fines or went to jail for stealing English road signs, damaging television transmitters and trying to disrupt broadcasts.

The campaign for a Welsh language television channel involved hundreds of people refusing to pay license fees. Eventually, three years ago, the government gave way.

"Unfortunately, direct action using unconstitutional means is



Supporters of the Welsh language demonstrate in the Welsh village of Harlech

the only thing the authorities understand," Davies said.

Pressure to extinguish Welsh reached a height at the end of the last century when school teachers employed what became known as the "Welsh not" a piece of wood hung around the necks of pupils caught speaking Welsh in the classroom.

It was the climax of a six century-long onslaught by a dominant English culture.

Welsh first emerged as a distinct language in the sixth century, seven hundred years before the country was conquered by England and lost its independence.

Linguistically, it is part of the Celtic family which includes Gaelic, spoken in Ireland and Scotland, Breton spoken in the Brittany region of France and Cornish, a now almost-defunct tongue once spoken in south western England.

It was in the 1960s that the government suddenly switched to preserving the hy-then dying Welsh language.

According to the Welsh office the present government "is spe-

nding more than any other on promoting Welsh, 2.45 million sterling (\$3.32 million) in the current financial year."

Nicholas Edwards, the secretary of state for Wales, professes a passionate attachment to the language.

"The political commitment of the present government is absolutely clear-cut," Edwards declared in a 1980 speech setting out the Thatcher government's language policy.

Much of the government's support for the language goes to educational bodies such as Mudiad Ysgolien Meithrin, a voluntary organisation which runs 425 pre-school play groups.

The Welsh office says there has been an upsurge in the popularity of Welsh-language schools where part or all of the lessons are taught in Welsh.

About 20 per cent of pupils attend such schools but the figure is only seven per cent in the heavily-populated south.

Davies does not believe the government strategy can safeguard the future of language

when the country itself is in decline.

"Defending the language means defending the communities where it is spoken," he said. "The government's way is sentimental, not realistic."

The clash between the two approaches was dramatically seen in the year-long coal miners' strike which ended last March.

Language militants joined miners in opposing the government's aim of closing unprofitable pits in south Wales. They argued the move would doom communities where Welsh was still the language of everyday life.

The same argument underpins the Welsh Language Society's campaign, which has sometimes resorted to arson, against building holiday homes in pretty mountain and seaside villages.

"It brings English into places where Welsh once ruled. People start speaking English in shops and pubs. Then it spreads to school playgrounds and homes," Davies said.

"That's the way communities and languages die."



The Kings Highway and Karak Castle

French Alps lure amateur climbers to their death

LYONS, France (R) — The wind-swept faces of the French Alps are fast becoming a graveyard for adventure-seeking mountain climbers who flock here by the hundreds of thousands during summer.

Police say that since early June, 26 climbers have fallen to their deaths or died of exposure on the icy peaks around Mont Blanc, where unseasonably harsh weather has brought driving blizzards and violent winds in recent weeks.

More than 100 others have been injured and rescue teams have been unable to find two climbers who disappeared in the range two weeks ago.

Mountain police in Chamonix, at the foot of Mont Blanc, say many of the 5,000 to 6,000 climbers who daily take to the trails are inexperienced amateurs, eager but unequipped to tackle the difficult climbs.

Many are unfamiliar with the most basic snow conditions and some do not even bother to check weather forecasts before setting off, according to Captain Jean-Pierre Constant, who is head of the Alpine gendarmerie unit.

"About 90 per cent of accidents happen because of imprudence and inexperience," he told Reuters. "People are badly equipped, badly trained, unfamiliar with trails or simply start their climb late

in the day."

The mountains threaten to claim even more victims this year than they did last. In June, July and August 1984, 29 climbers died and 145 were injured. This year, with incomplete figures for August — the peak of the mountaineering season — 26 people have been killed and 112 injured.

Thousands of mountaineering enthusiasts flock to the beckoning French Alps. Quite a few of them never make it back home from the wind-swept cliffs and some vanish forever in deep valleys.

This excludes the two missing climbers — a Frenchman and a Pole. The bodies of their two Spanish companions were found last Monday.

Last week, two other Spanish climbers were swept to their deaths when snow melted by afternoon sun unleashed an avalanche on the steep northern face of the 3,900-metre (11,700-foot) Courtes peak.

Constant said about half the Alps' climbers were foreigners and most accident victims were between 20 and 30 years old.

He said two helicopters were on hand to answer climbers' distress signals, often raised by other mountaineers who witness an accident, or by families of missing climbers.

A network of small shelters dotted through the peaks also maintains radio contact with Chamonix and alerts the police to avalanches and weather anomalies.

The high death toll from mountaineering accidents has been the source of a longstanding public debate about whether access to climbing areas should be limited to experienced climbers.

A recent study estimated the cost of a single mountain rescue operation, including helicopter, hospital and medical expenses, at about 20,000 francs (\$2,300).

But Constant insists that, while well-trained climbers are the most desirable, "the mountain should remain a free space open to everyone to enjoy."

Europeans experience reduced work hours

By Anne Schwarz

BONN — The first wage agreement reducing the working week from 40 to 38½ hours in the Federal Republic of Germany came into force in April. It also allowed engineering works to introduce flexitime.

In 5,008 companies with a combined payroll of 2,180,000 the engineering employers have since concluded that initial experience with the new wage agreement has shown it to be of benefit to both staff and management.

About two out of three firms polled (and the poll covered firms representing 79 per cent of engineering industry workers) said flexitime had been introduced in one form or another. Forty-seven per cent of staff have extra days off. Only about nine per cent of engineering employees work more or less than 38½ hours a week.

Last year the employers were strongly opposed to the idea. They felt sure profits would be hard hit. But they now see advantages. In 70 per cent of factories polled flexitime has meant productivity has been either maintained or increased.

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ADEC FROM CITIZEN

Aouita threatens to rewrite record books

WEST BERLIN (R) — Said Aouita of Morocco is threatening to rewrite the record books of middle-distance running, already extensively revised in recent weeks by Britain's Steve Cram.

Aouita, the Olympic 5,000 metres champion, broke his second world record of the season Friday night at the West Berlin Athletics Grand Prix in the 1,500 metres and promptly announced he intended to crack three more in the near future.

The style of his superb race, where he clocked three minutes 29.45 seconds despite severe pain

from a thigh muscle strain, suggests nothing is beyond the 24-year-old sports teacher.

Aouita finished 0.22 seconds inside the times set by Cram in Nice last month, the first of his three world records in what is turning into a long hot summer for the middle-distance events.

The Moroccan plans to relieve Cram of the other two, starting

with the mile in Koblenz next Wednesday before tackling the 2,000 metres. He is also working towards an attack on the 3,000 metres.

Aouita has already taken a world record from another Briton, David Moorcroft, beating his 5,000 metres time in Oslo four weeks ago.

Ironically, Aouita was not supposed to be in West Berlin. He was due to attend a reception in Morocco to mark his brilliant achievements and only appeared by special dispensation from the country's sports ministry.

But American Olympic hero Carl Lewis will be there. Lewis, despite the unusual experience of finishing fourth in the Zurich 100

metres and in the 200 metres Friday night, plans to start over the shorter sprint in Cologne.

Those two races were the first in two months for the man who won four gold medals at the Los Angeles games last year after a pause to recover from a hamstring injury.

But Lewis claimed he was neither disappointed by his form nor dismayed at losing.

He said he needed more races to get back to peak form and that he detected a welcome improvement in the way he ran Friday night.

Jordan's basketball team excelled, proud coach says

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Against the odds, Jordan's national basketball team who recently participated in the pan-Arab Games in Morocco, proved to be the best amongst all Arab countries by winning the first ever gold medal from an Arab collective game.

The team's American coach Robert Taylor said that Jordan's team has gained admiration and satisfaction from all spectators who watched the pan-Arab Games, held in early August.

"We set the goal to win and we were determined that no team playing in the tournament could challenge Jordan's claim to secure the championship which was completed by an 80-78 win in the final game for the gold medal against Iraq," the coach said.

Mr. Taylor, in an interview with the Jordan Times, said he was determined to push "this team to a limit they never knew they could achieve." Championship basketball begins with hard-nosed, man-to-man defence," he added.

Speaking about the tournament and the competitors, coach Taylor said Jordan has held five opponents to an average of 66 points while scoring at 84.1 per game clip.

According to the coach, Murad Barakat was the leading scorer of the tournament amongst all Arab players with a 25.1 points per game average.

A special praise was also cited for Imad Al Said for "accepting the challenge of limiting the aggressiveness of the opponents' leading scorer in each game," the coach added.

He said the Jordanian team was fully prepared and staffed with tough players, which along with wise planning in the field, enabled Jordan to attain the gold medal.

The team was spread into an extreme pressure defence flank by: Imad Al Said, Yousef Zaghloul, Samir Murchos, Marwan Matook. The outside shooting squad was formed by Murad Barakat, Yanzul uannash, Yousef Zaghloul and Samir Murchos who were qualified to shoot better than

54 per cent from distant range. Murad Barakat, Hylel Barakat, Jamal Buhari played an excellent

The coach mentioned that a new way of playing was carried out by Jordan's players in terms of offensive and defensive tactics.

"Jordan changed offences at random taking full advantage, of all weaknesses in their opponents' man-to-man or zone defences. Furthermore, the team could play as many as six different defences depending on the strength of their opponents whilst the primary defence was man-to-man pressure," the coach pointed out.

role in outrebounding taller players in semifinal and final games, the coach added.

He also highlighted the team's flexible passes and noting specifically those of Samir Murchos. "Murchos was a top assist to the field with his outrageous passings," he said.

Coach Taylor concluded by saying Jordan's team was the best in the tournament and that the "medal was well deserved."

Oersted reaffirms mastership

BASSANO DEL GRAPPA, Italy (R) — Hans Henrik Oersted emerged Friday night as a true champion among champions.

The remarkable Dane reached the professional five-kilometre pursuit final and then claimed his second successive title with another demolition job on Britain's Tony Doyle at the world cycling championships.

Yet he could not have found any tougher competition.

The four semifinalists, who also included West German Gregor Braun and Italy's Francesco

Moser, were all former champions.

But Oersted, who has not finished out of the world championship medals since 1980 and who had to wait until last year to claim his first gold, dispatched all-comers with impressive ease.

His emphatic nine-second semifinal win over Moser, the Italian champion in 1976, set the scene for his showdown for the title with Doyle in a rerun of last year's final.

But Doyle, the 1980 champion, could not live with Oersted's relentless pace as the defending champion and his already glittering haul of a 1980 Olympic bronze and two bronze and two silver world championship medals.

Frenchwoman Isabelle Nicolo ended the reign of American Connie Paraskevin as sprint queen with an equally commanding 2-0 victory in the women's final.

Saturday, 19-year-old Australian Dean Woods starts favourite to land the amateur pursuit crown.

Navratilova-Shriver beat Riggs-Gerulaitis easily

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey (R) — What might have been his last hurrah as a big-money tennis hustler ended in a straight-sets defeat Friday night for 67-year-old Bobby Riggs.

Riggs and his 31-year-old partner Vitas Gerulaitis were simply no match for the world's top women's doubles team of Martina Navratilova and Pam Shriver in the \$500,000 "challenge match" at the Atlantic City convention hall.

Gerulaitis tried to do too much and Riggs could do too little as the men fell 6-2, 6-3, 6-4 before a crowd of 8,850.

Focusing their attack mostly on Riggs throughout the 85-minute match, Navratilova and Shriver found the Wimbledon and U.S. nationals champion of more than four decades ago unable to cope with their powerful attacking game.

RESULTS OF HORSE RACES, FRIDAY, AUGUST 23RD, 1985

FIRST RACE:
For beginner horses,
Distance: 1,600 metres,
Time: 2 minutes 04 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	Bint El Hamdanieh	Jamal Mohammad
2ND:	Saad Khalid	El Zabin
3RD:	Shamsih	Naiel Mohammad A. El Kareem Jamal Iyadiah El Zabin

SECOND RACE:
For beginner horses,
Distance: 1,400 metres,
Time: 1 minute 49 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	Sabha Nabeel	Nabeel Ibrahim Shaheen
2ND:	Sabal	Naief Salim El Kaisy
3RD:	Mahboub Usamah	Shtalwy El Jamany

THIRD RACE:
For third class horses,
Distance: 1,600 metres,
Time: 2 minutes 05 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	Najim El Salt	Mashour Faisal A.
2ND:	Mahbobit Samy	Mohammad Salman El Jbarat
3RD:	Nassar	Mohammad A. El Hady Rabie

FOURTH RACE:
For beginner horses,
Distance: 1,400 metres,
Time: 1 minute 45 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	Al Mutanby	Mishal El Faiez
2ND:	Ward El Selih	Yousef Rahhal
3RD:	Sary	Nimir El Hmoud

FIFTH RACE:
For beginner horses,
Distance: 1,400 metres,
Time: 1 minute 38 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	Habibat	Faisal Awwad El Faiez
2ND:	Waheed	Samy Abdullaah Hadadin
3RD:	Khatil	Saad Faisal El Faiez

SIXTH RACE:
For third class horses,
Distance: 1,600 metres,
Time: 1 minute 56 seconds

	HORSE	OWNER
1ST:	Sarim	H.H. Late Sherif
2ND:	Ghanim	Nasir Bin Jamil
3RD:	El Hmaid	Nimir El Hmoud

FIRST RACE 3.30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Habel Norsa El Faiez	Wahab	Owner	Salah	54
2- Zaid Naiel El Faiez	Almoghira	Owner	Mowak	52.5
3- Mohammad Salman Elbarat	G. Elbarat	Owner	A. Jabir	52.5
4- Faisal Mitek El Saweer	A. El Rahman	Owner	Yousef	52.5
5- Mohammed A. El Jalli	Arwa	Owner		52.5
6- Eled Mualah Ibn Ewaldh	M. Eled	Owner		52.5
7- Naiel Dawesh El Bakheet	Shalhoub	Owner	Fawaz	51
8- Sali Dawesh El Bakheet	Bakith	Owner	Rasheed	42.5
9- A. El Nasser A. Wardy	R. Meen	Owner		49.5
10- Dawesh El Bakheet	H. El Reah	Owner		48
11- Talab A. El Kadir	D. Elmshakar	Owner		48
12- Nawaf Maltouh El Faiez	Farah	Owner	Mahmoud	46.5
13- Hassan Hewlth El Zabin	El Muttith	Owner	Ahmad	46.5

SECOND RACE 4.00 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Kaban Khalith	M. Faiez	Owner		54
2- Ziad Abboud Nafie	Inan	Owner		52.5
3- Oudih El Kaisy	Latif	Owner	Mowak	52.5
4- Ahma Salim El Fanash	M. Haim	Owner		52.5
5- Salim A. El Kareem	M. Fais	Owner	Ahmad	52.5
6- Mousa Mohammad Shleah	Zwan	Owner	Fawaz	52.5
7- Dawesh El Bakheet	B. El Sahra	Owner		49.5
8- Khalid Hewlth El Zabin	El Khalouj	Owner		49.5
9- Nafel Miteh El Bakheet	Mabrouk	Owner		48
10- Mohammad Faid El Bakheet	Maha Sany	Owner		46.5
11- Mohammad A. El Naby	Ajmalon	Owner	Yousef	46.5
12- Mohammad Moseh	Inisar Kais	Owner		46.5
13- Mohammad Khalid El Faiez	Jawahir	Owner	Sulman	46.5

THIRD RACE 4.30 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Mamdouh Khalid El Adwan	Azith	Owner	Dafallah	53.5
2- Faisal Mitek El Saweer	Elanoud	Owner		53.5
3- Faisal Mitek El Saweer	Elarka	Owner		51.5
4- Hassan Aly El Daham	Aljab	Owner	Ahmad	51.5
5- Mohammad Khalid El Faiez	Sajou	Owner	Sulman	51.5
6- Abbas El Adwan	Mardy	Owner		50
7- Dawesh El Bakheet	Mughdhal	Owner	Rasheed	48.5
8- A. El Satar Matar	J. Elmshakar	Owner		48.5
9- Faisal Nashmy El Faiez	Ghadour	Owner		48.5
10- Thamar Mahary El Bakheet	Barak	Owner		47
11- Hamad Abdulla El Jamany	K. Daly	Owner	A. Jabir	45.5
12- Mohammad Salman El Nabulay Salma	Fadia	Owner	Mowak	45.5
13- Abdullah Ayash	Fadia	Owner	Yousef	45.5

FOURTH RACE 5.00 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1400 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Salam Hassan A. Irshaid	M. Shihan	Owner		54
2- Yousef Rahhal	W. Elseeth	Owner	Mowak	54
3- H.H. Late Sherif Nasir Stale	Finth	Owner	Ibrahim	52.5
4- Hamad El Nafmy	Saadah	Owner	Ahmad	52.5
5- Nimir El Hmoud	Say	Owner	Mahmoud	51
6- A. El Latif El Hadeed	El Samy	Owner	Fawaz	48
7- A. El Satar Matar	Sali Saad	Owner	Yousef	48
8- Samy Yacoub Madros	Saad	Owner	Adnan	48
9- Mishal El Faiez	Nomas	Owner	Robert	48

FIFTH RACE 5.30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- A. El Latif El Hadeed	N. Amman	Owner	Fawaz	48
2- Ghailb Haddadin	Sahim	Owner		48
3- Samy Haddadin	Waheed	Owner		48
4- Nimir El Hmoud	Shahrazad	Owner	Mahmoud	48.5
5- Nimir Hmoud	Sahab	Owner		46.5
6- Sultan Faisal El Faiez	Nafth	Owner		46.5
7- Saman Faisal El Faiez	Khatil	Owner		46.5
8- Khalid Haddadin	H. Meen	Owner		46

SIXTH RACE 6.00 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 2200 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Nimir El Hmoud	Tarrad	Owner	Mahmoud	54
2- Nimir El Hmoud	Sahir	Owner		47
3- Mishal El Faiez	M. Elajal	Owner		53
4- Mishal El Faiez	Elzafir	Owner		47
5- Mishal El Faiez	A. El Taleb	Owner		47
6- Ghailb Haddadin	El Samy	Owner		48
7- Izzat Kandour	Koban	Owner		47

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1) POLICE ACADEMY 2
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VERDICT AT THE END OF TRIAL SESSION

(Colour)
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

BORKYES PART 3

Performances: 3:00, 6:00, 9:00

Cinema OPERA

Tel: 675573

MANITOU

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30
Abdali, behind ALIA offices

Cinema PALESTINE

Tel: 22117

THE TWINS
BRUCE LEE
THE INVINCIBLE

(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

SARDAAR

(Indian)
(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-6:30-8

Cinema Philadelphia

SEDUCTION

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TEL - 3444-3448

Icahn wins control of TWA

NEW YORK (R) — Financier Icahn disclosed late Friday that he has effectively gained control of Trans World Airlines (TWA), the fifth largest U.S. airline, after a long and bitter takeover struggle.

Mr. Icahn said in a statement the investors' group he heads now owned 50.3 per cent of TWA's issued shares.

Mr. Icahn wrested control of TWA despite a friendly merger agreement the airline reached last June with Texas Air Corp.

Over a period of several months, Mr. Icahn aggressively outmanoeuvred Texas Air in building up his holdings of nearly 17.5 million TWA shares.

Mr. Icahn said this week he intended to continue buying shares in TWA, at the same time, he opened talks with Texas Air to try to persuade it to formally withdraw its offer for TWA shares and therefore speed his takeover of the airline.

Technically, as soon as he gained more than 50 per cent of TWA's shares, Mr. Icahn could simply take control of TWA by appointing his own directors, but he indicated this week he preferred a more friendly route such as by having Texas Air drop its

offer.

Texas Air still stands to gain about \$42 million from its futile takeover bid — an \$18 million fee from TWA for breaking its agreement with Texas Air and \$24 million from profits on shares it bought as well as from options to buy TWA shares at reduced prices.

Mr. Icahn promised TWA union employees who supported his bid that he would keep the airline intact, rather than sell off parts of it.

Meeting to assess human role in development

UNITED NATIONS (OPECNA) — Development experts, business leaders and academics will participate in a three-day meeting opening in Istanbul, Turkey, on Sept. 2 to analyse "the human dimension of development".

The meeting is being sponsored by the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP), the North-South Roundtable and the Society for International Development.

According to UNDP, the meeting is also aimed at mobilising international opinion to support

"required policy changes".

Participants will include heads of major international and intergovernmental organisations and aid agencies.

A UNDP statement says experience over the last 30 years has shown that the transfer of financial resources for physical investments has not created an adequate foundation for self-sustaining development.

It adds that insufficient attention has been given to the development of human resources and international assistance has failed to narrow significantly the technical and managerial gap between industrialised and Third World countries.

Greater attention needs to be given to the development of human skills "and the strengthening of human capacities", it says.

Dr. Seyyid Abdulai, director general of the OPEC Fund for International Development, who is expected to participate in the meeting, told OPECNA last week that "the role of different skills in the development process is underplayed".

He said emphasis was often concentrated on the provision of industries, tractors and machines.

adding "all these come to almost nothing without the skills and the right attitude to development".

He stressed that much could be achieved if through the acquisition of skills, training and attitude, people were put in a situation in which they could be productive.

"The quality of people makes a difference in management, maintenance and decision-making. Development assistance goes farther with these," he said.

Bahrain offshore bank assets drop sharply

BAHRAIN (R) — Assets of Bahrain's Offshore Banking Units (OBUS) fell to \$57.24 billion in June, the lowest level since August 1983's figure of \$56.79 billion, statistics from the Bahrain Monetary Agency showed Saturday.

The figure stood at \$59.36 billion in May 1985 and \$62.40 billion in June 1984.

OBUS assets rose strongly in the late 1970s and early 1980s but peaked at \$63.47 billion in March 1984.

The June figures partly reflect the decrease in the number of reporting OBUS to 74 in May.

Assets denominated in dollars dropped to \$42.92 billion from \$44.62 billion, while dollar liabilities shrank to \$39.40 billion from \$40.59 billion.

Assets held in regional currencies fell to \$9.75 billion from \$10.24 billion, while liabilities in those currencies declined to \$13.65 billion from \$14.41 billion.

Broken down geographically, assets held in Arab countries declined to \$25.86 billion from \$26.66 billion, and those held in Western Europe fell to \$15.25 billion from \$15.86 billion.

Liabilities due to Arab countries dropped to \$36.68 billion from \$37.94 billion, while those to Western Europe slipped to \$13.18 billion from \$13.87 billion.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A very good day to consider where you are headed and the ground yet to be covered in order to attain your most worldly and public objectives. Plan for the coming week's activities.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Know who it is that can best help you to get ahead, and then join that person in some activity or project.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A good day to take a little trip and gather information you need, or study brochures for the same purpose.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Plan the future more sensibly with the one you love. Do whatever will solve an emotional tangle.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Situations arise today that can be beneficial to you if you make good use of them.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Take treatments that will improve your health in the morning. Attend some fine social affair in the evening and be happy.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Plan amusements for the days ahead and count the cost well now. The development of some new hobby can bring you much pleasure.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Home and family should receive your greatest attention today, so do just that. Establish greater harmony in your home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A fine day for being at some place where you can enlarge on your present philosophy of life. Be careful in driving.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) No matter what you may be doing, take time to study your property for possible needed repairs.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good day to do what you most please, so make plans early and carry through with them. Show that you are kind.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get busy at arrangements for the days ahead and schedule your activities wisely. Buy a present for your mate.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Go out and see relatives and friends. Have a delightful day and remain calm and poised even if you confront someone who is angry.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Aug. 17, '85 and ending Wednesday, Aug. 21, '85. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Jordan Islamic Bank	1079	2883	2.690	2.600	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	14145	38259	2.630	2.620	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	8642	13949	1.610	1.580	1.000
Housing Bank	4860	8506	1.750	1.750	1.000
Industrial Development Bank	1600	2537	1.580	1.580	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	2218	2341	1.100	1.030	1.000
Jordan Finance House	95845	87928	0.900	0.900	1.000
Islamic Investment House	51178	52095	1.010	1.030	1.000
Jordan National Bank	242828	740573	3.000	2.880	1.000
Jordan Investment & Finance Corporation	5100	3162	1.120	1.120	1.000
Finance & Credit Corporation (50%)	6930	3503	1.000	1.000	1.000
Darke Investment & Housing (75%)	14600	7396	0.750	0.750	1.000
Aqarco (75%)	6500	2710	0.660	0.660	1.000
National Portfolio Securities (50%)	11953	2868	0.740	0.740	1.000
National Financial Investments	15495	13173	0.860	0.840	1.000
Bank of Jordan	2139	52652	24.500	24.500	5.000
Arab Bank Ltd.	6550	1214591	207.000	155.000	10.000
Jordan Insurance	1986	22251	11.800	11.000	1.000
Jordan Islamic Insurance	1286	1726	1.150	1.280	1.000
Jordan French Insurance	4616	12856	3.020	3.000	1.000
Refo Insurance (50%)	2344	772	0.820	0.820	1.000
Jordan Electric Power	12882	19957	1.550	1.550	1.000
Arab International Hotels	11700	4272	0.360	0.360	1.000
National Shipping Lines	8300	6634	0.790	0.830	1.000
Petra Project & Leasing Equipment	3680	1030	0.780	0.780	1.000
Jordan Dairy	25970	29542	1.150	1.180	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	69668	61213	0.090	0.090	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	21919	68629	3.080	3.120	1.000
National Steel Industries	11530	14347	1.240	1.220	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	9560	7342	0.770	0.780	1.000
Jordan Ceramic	6950	7026	1.010	1.010	1.000
Jordan Paper & Cardboards Factories	4172	9534	2.200	2.300	1.000
Jordan Phosphates Mines	1215	3470	2.810	2.860	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	4570	5168	1.090	1.140	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	39735	13357	0.340	0.330	1.000
National Industries	2150	1277	0.570	0.600	1.000
Jordan Tobacco & Cigarettes	800	10400	12.500	12.000	5.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	6941	48356	6.930	6.890	5.000
Universal Chemical Industries	1850	2376	1.300	1.920	1.000
Arab Insurance	650	501	0.790	0.770	1.000
Real Estate Financial Corporation (Refo)	50	1000	18.500	20.000	2.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	4482	9427	2.080	2.100	1.000
Arab Paper Converting & Trading	500	140	0.280	0.280	1.000
Arab Investment Bank	450	882	1.460	1.960	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance	1850	1480	0.790	0.800	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	500	190	0.900	0.880	1.000
Arab Development and Investment	3300	1980	0.600	0.600	1.000
Wool Industries	1850	1435	0.720	0.800	1.000
General Mining	3380	5535	1.610	1.630	1.000
Jordan Tanning	213	386	1.820	1.820	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	200	264	1.340	1.320	1.000
Jordan Industries and Matches	1800	1451	0.800	0.790	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	500	450	0.910	0.900	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	4807	7130	1.470	1.490	1.000
Jordan Leasing and Equipment	2510	1739	0.680	0.680	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	575	598	1.050	1.040	1.000
National Insurance (Jordan)	34	918	25.000	27.000	10.000
Chemical Industries	1150	1151	1.010	1.000	1.000
Middle East Insurance	60	3600	60.000	60.000	10.000
Aladdin Industries	6600	3987	0.620	0.800	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	300	177	0.600	0.590	1.000
Industrial Development	10	55	5.000	5.500	1.000
Jordan Fertilisers	100	400	4.070	4.000	10.000
Grand total	808518	2.646.588			

Debt crisis ravages Latin American private companies

CARACAS (R) — Latin America's debt crisis has ravaged private business in the region with recession and bankruptcies, and banking analysts say there is little hope for a full recovery before the 1990s.

The debt crunch and resulting austerity action implemented by governments have severely cut the flow of funds to private Latin American companies, leading to falling output, corporate failures and rising unemployment.

A major problem has been the wave of devaluations to confront balance of payments crises. The currency cuts mean private companies often found themselves facing rises of up to 300 or 400 per cent in debt service costs.

Bankers say it will be years before foreign credit starts flowing again to private sector borrowers at anything like the same rate as in the period before August 1982, when Mexico rattled the banking world by halting debt payments.

Of Latin America's total debt of \$360 billion, most attention has focused on amounts owed by governments. However, in the private sector the impact has been more dramatic and the solutions more elusive.

Negotiations over the private sector's estimated \$80 billion debt have been extremely complex. In some countries banks face not recovering the principal for up to 10 years, if then.

Since sparking off the debt crisis three years ago, Mexico has struck important rescheduling agreements with its creditors. But major private concerns in that country have obtained only partial repayment solutions.

One firm with severe cash shortages, Cerveceria Moctezuma, could not pay its \$367 million debt and was sued last October by a group of foreign banks including Chase Manhattan and Bank of America.

Law suits have also hit Venezuela's private sector, arguably the region's most delinquent with around \$500 million in interest arrears that have soured relations with banks negotiating to reschedule government debt.

But bankers say Venezuela's record does not reflect that of the region as a whole and that governments have in general taken action to face the private debt issue over the last two years.

To help private borrowers, most governments have either taken over the debtor drawn up schemes to cover the additional service costs.

Only Brazil virtually left its pri-

ate sector to sink or swim with a major devaluation in 1983. Several bankruptcies ensued, and companies have avoided foreign credit since because of the currency risk.

Attempts to shore up private Latin American businesses have varied from country to country.

Argentina, for example, with a private debt of around \$14 billion, issued \$7.4 billion in government-backed dollar-denominated bonds to refinance these loans.

Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico and Venezuela have implemented plans to offset the cost of private debt repayments.

Mexico was the first country to implement a plan for private debt repayment, through a scheme which converts dollar debt into pesos for firms which reschedule debts with their creditors, over eight years. Venezuela operates a similar scheme, with a seven-year, refinancing requirement.

Ecuador issued bonds to the value of \$1 billion or 66 per cent of its private debt, with the central bank covering the cost of devaluations.

In Chile, whose private sector accounts for 30 per cent of the entire \$18.9 billion foreign debt, the government operated a scheme protecting private debtors, but suspended it in June because of excessive costs to the treasury.

But compensation schemes have typically covered only around 50-60 per cent of total private sector debts.

Many companies have thus sought individual agreements with their creditors, who generally have had little choice — apart from a probably fruitless lawsuit — to recover their money.

Where repayment is virtually a lost cause, banks are faced with debt capitalisation, whereby overdue interest is treated as a new loan or transformed into equity of a debtor company.

This way out offers the debtor breathing space to revive cash flow and eventually repay creditors who would otherwise probably gain little other than worthless assets.

The Venezuelan government recently amended foreign investment laws to encourage debt capitalisation, but bankers said they did not expect an enthusiastic response.

"Debt capitalisation is only last resort for most banks, though some head offices of local subsidiaries may find it useful to capitalise trade debts," said Mr. John Pate, an investment lawyer.

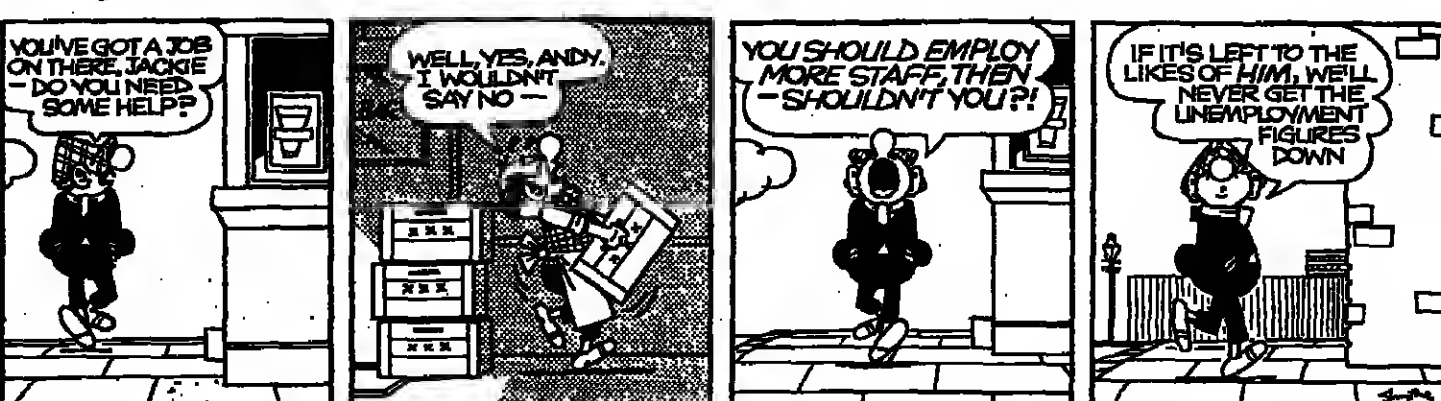
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF



"No, Mrs. Parker, plastic flamingos and a plaid birdbath are not grounds for a divorce!"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles. One letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

HOUTY

YIPTE

ENBOCK

SUFOAM

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

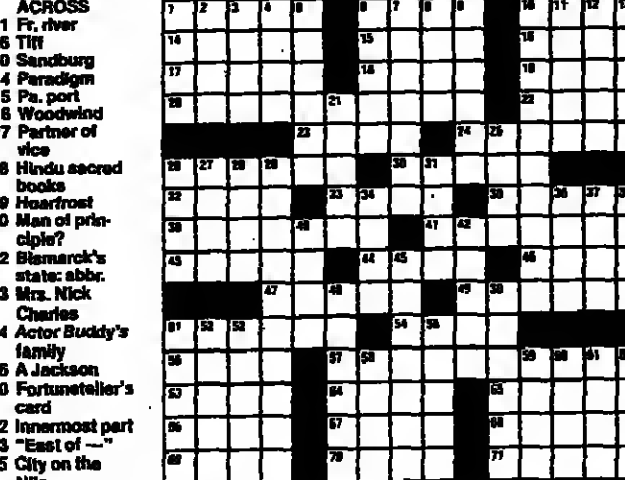
Print answer here: _____

Saturday's Jumbles: MONEY EXTOL UPLIFT LIZARD

Answer: They called the comedian a "gas" because he was this — JUST AN OLD "FUEL"

THE Daily Crossword

by Harvey L. Chew



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1 Across: 3 Of trade: abbr. Rice

2 Across: 4 Reduce to pulp

3 Across: 5 Stritch or May

4 Across: 6 Cut

5 Across: 7 Come before

6 Across: 8 Assistant

7 Across: 9 Tormentor

8 Across: 10 Gravy thickener

9 Across: 11 Remain

10 Across: 12 Numerical type

11 Across: 13 Culinary herbs

12 Across: 14 Grass cutter

13 Across: 15 Rat

14 Across: 16 Peak

15 Across: 17 Carol

16 Across: 18 Weight

17 Across: 19 Investigated

18 Across: 20 Handle

19 Across: 21 Dizzy or Daffy

20 Across: 22 Mother of

21 Across: 23 Rotund and

22 Across: 24 Remains

23 Across: 25 Actual

24 Across: 26 Stoun

25 Across: 27 Inup

26 Across: 28 Warble

27 Across: 29 Mike of "Mash"

28 Across: 30 Country in

29 Across: 31 Eye of the

30 Across: 32 Long time

S. Africa arrests 18 opponents; Rev. Boesak goes into hiding

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Police said Saturday they have imprisoned 18 leading opponents of white rule, but one of the most influential, the Reverend Allan Boesak, appeared to have gone into hiding.

Incidents of violence were reported by police in 17 black townships into the early hours Saturday, although none involved new deaths. More than 600 people have died during 12 months of disturbances.

The 18 new detainees included Anglican Reverend Syd Lockett, director of the church's board of Social Responsibility, and Physician Dr. Farouk Meer, acting President of the Multiracial United Democratic Front (UDF) anti-apartheid coalition.

Dr. Meer was nabbed by security police in a Durban drug store, friends said, while Rev. Lockett was taken in Cape Town near his home.

The security police began the roundups moments after Rev. Boesak announced Friday morning that he planned a march on Wednesday to the gates of Polismoor Prison, to demand freedom for Nelson Mandela.

Mr. Mandela, considered the leader of South Africa's 24 million blacks, has been imprisoned for life since a 1964 conviction for planning sabotage.

Rev. Boesak said the march would be peaceful, but most all public rallies and marches have

been illegal since a year of black unrest in 1976.

It appeared police wanted to remove from circulation anyone who might be helping to organize the march, which is expected to draw world attention. Most of those who were arrested are members or supporters of the United Democratic Front. Rev. Boesak is a patron of the group.

Essa Moosa, Rev. Boesak's attorney, said Rev. Boesak backed out of a scheduled address Friday night and that the Dutch Reformed Church minister and his family were unreachable.

Moosa said he did not know where to contact Rev. Boesak, but the Cape Town lawyer said he did not believe Rev. Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, had been arrested.

Trouble persisted in Aliwal North, a remote town in northern Cape Province, about 340 kilometres north of Port Elizabeth, where police have fought nightly battles with blacks since Wednesday.

Police shot and killed six blacks and wounded 20 there on Friday. On Saturday, a spokesman for the

National Police Department said four blacks were wounded by birdshot when they stoned police cars.

Beyond General hatred of apartheid, it is not clear why the protests have flared in the Aliwal North area.

The envoys to South Africa of the 10 European Community (EC) nations and national foreign policy experts began a second day of talks Saturday about possible sanctions against the white minority government.

Sources said, however, it was unlikely the meeting would produce recommendations for economic sanctions against the state of emergency in South Africa and its racial segregation policies.

The closed-door meeting was being held to prepare next week's visit to South Africa of the foreign ministers of Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

One source said Friday night the three would not go to South Africa "with a shopping list of demands" but would try to see "a range of people," meaning South African government officials as well as opposition leaders.

The EC envoys and the national foreign policy officials were also reviewing the Aug. 15 speech of South African President P.W. Botha. In that address, Mr. Botha dashed hopes South Africa's policy of apartheid would soon end.

The meeting here was also attended by the ambassadors to

South Africa of Spain and Portugal, two countries due to become the EC's 11th and 12th member states on Jan. 1.

The meeting marked the first time the EC ambassadors to South Africa were recalled for consultations to protest the state of emergency in South Africa.

The Italian, Luxembourg and Dutch foreign ministers are to leave on a four-day visit to South Africa on Aug. 29. They are scheduled to brief the full EC Foreign Ministers Council at a meeting on Sept. 16 and 17.

Last month, the EC nations urged South Africa to end apartheid but refrained from imposing sanctions.

Britain and West Germany are most strongly opposed to such a move, arguing it would harm the interests of South Africa's 24 million whites in South Africa.

France has been the main proponent of joint economic sanctions.

The EC, the world's largest trade bloc, has important economic links with South Africa. Its exports to South Africa last year totalled almost \$6 billion, while imports were valued at \$7 billion according to EC figures.

EC exports include electrical equipment, cars and tractors and imports are made up of many minerals, including gold, copper and diamonds.

Combusters blamed for U.K. crash

MANCHESTER, England (R) — The U.S. jet engine company Pratt and Whitney says an explosion on a Boeing 737 which killed 54 tourists at Manchester airport on Thursday was caused by a combustion chamber fault in one of its engines.

Meanwhile airport officials were investigating statements by some survivors that they were told to stay in their seats after flames engulfed the plane just before take-off for Greek holiday island of Crete.

It was the worst air disaster in Britain for 13 years. There were 83 survivors, mostly from the north of England which ringway Airport serves. Fifteen are still in hospital.

Pratt and Whitney, whose experts joined the British team lo-

king for the cause of the disaster, said Friday night the problem had been traced to combustors which ignite air and fuel in the engine's combustion chamber.

The Connecticut-based firm is to send test messages to all airlines using its engines reminding them of previous advice on maintenance.

Pratt and Whitney Spokesman David Long refused to comment when asked by reporters whether maintenance could have been inadequate. "We are saying the combustors were responsible and we are sending a telex to all our operators throughout the world," he said.

The engine which exploded in Thursday's disaster was a Pratt and Whitney JT8D-15.

The state carrier British Air-

ways (BA), parent company to British Airways which had chartered the plane on behalf of four travel agents, declined to comment on Pratt and Whitney's assessment that the combustors were to blame.

The investigation had earlier centred on the jet's turbine rotary blades and wing fuel tanks but switched to the combustion chamber when Pratt and Whitney announced that no moving engine parts had sparked the blaze.

In another development, British aviation authorities said they had not been informed of a U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) order to American airlines nearly a year ago to make changes to the JT8D-15.

Precautionary checks of these engines were now being carried out, the British authorities said.

Long time heart-transplant patient gets new kidney

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — California doctors have claimed success in transplanting a new kidney into a 51-year-old man who has lived for 11 years with a heart transplant and for eight years with stainless steel hips.

The patient, Louis Bonasio, appearing robust and smiling at a news conference 26 days after kidney surgery, was flanked by two people who had received other organs from the same donor.

Bonasio received a heart transplant in 1974 at Stanford University Medical Centre and underwent the kidney transplant on July 29 at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). Both transplants were necessary because of separate diseases, doctors said.

"He is the only person alive sustained by two organs transplanted from two different donors," said Dr. Nicholas Feduska, a UCSF surgeon who said Bonasio's case has fascinating implications.

"He demonstrates that patients with life-threatening diseases affecting multiple organ systems can benefit from multiple organ transplants."

Bonasio's kidney came from a man in his early 20s who was declared brain dead following a traffic accident. The donor was not identified.

The donor's heart and lungs were transplanted to Rod Umphreys, 32. His second kidney went to Richard Juan, 56, and his corneas went to fourth and fifth patients.

Aquino witness leaves Philippines

MANILA (R) — Japanese journalist Kiyoshi Wakamiya, who was expected to testify at the trial of 26 men accused in the murder of opposition leader Benigno Aquino, left Saturday for Tokyo after being refused a visa extension, the late politician's brother said.

Wakamiya, who had travelled on the same plane as the former Philippine senator on the day that he was killed, was here for the second anniversary of Sen. Aquino's murder at Manila airport on Aug. 21, 1983.

Sen. Aquino's brother Agapito said the Japanese embassy told Wakamiya his five-day visa would not be extended and that he should leave. He said the embassy also expressed fears for his safety.

"The main purpose of his visit had been to attend the second anniversary of Ninoy's death," Mr. Aquino said. "I do not think he was prepared to be a witness at the trial even though (chief prosecutor) Manuel Herrera said he would."

Wakamiya met Herrera Friday. The prosecutor said afterwards he would testify on Monday at the trial of Armed Forces Chief Gen. Fabian Ver and 25 others accused in the murders of Sen. Aquino and his alleged assassin Rolando Galman.

Wakamiya also told reporters he would testify, adding: "I know Galman did not shoot Aquino."

The military, who provided an escort for Sen. Aquino when he returned to Manila, said he was shot by Galman, alleging also that he was a Communist gunman. An official inquiry said the two men were victims of a high-level military conspiracy.

Wakamiya had testified in Tokyo when the inquiry went there last year but Herrera said his appearance at the trial was needed because otherwise his testimony at the inquiry would be stricken from the record.

Agapito Aquino, who went to the airport with Wakamiya, told reporters he had not brought his diaries or other documents with him, including photographs.

Chinese earthquake death toll reaches 55

PEKING (R) — Officials warned residents to brace for strong aftershocks Saturday in the wake of an earthquake which rocked north-west China, killing at least 55 people.

The state Seismological Bureau said the quake, which measured 7.4 on the Richter Scale, was centred near Wuqia City about 60 kilometres north-east of the major city of Kashgar near the Soviet border.

The quake, which also injured at least 100 people, struck at 8:41 p.m. (12:41 GMT) Friday.

Preliminary estimates say that strong aftershocks may follow, possibly of magnitude six, the New China News Agency quoted the bureau as saying.

The Xinjiang regional government and the army have rushed rescuers to the scene, the agency said.

An earthquake office official in the regional capital of Urumqi told Reuters by telephone that remote country villages and towns suffered the most damage.

He said less than 200,000 people, mostly Uighurs, Kazakhs and other members of Turkic minorities, inhabited the sparsely-populated areas most affected by the shocks.

An earthquake which levelled Tangshan City in densely-inhabited east China in 1976, killing more than 240,000 people, registered 7.8 on the Richter Scale which measures intensity.

A tremor of 5.1 on the Richter scale preceded Friday's main shock and 13 tremors followed, including two at five on the scale.

The main tremor was so strong that it destroyed the two seismological stations at Wuqia, close to the epicentre at 39.4 north and 75.2 degrees east. One has been repaired and others are being rushed to the scene.

The bureau said 19 people were killed in Wuqia county.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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ROBSON'S CHOICE

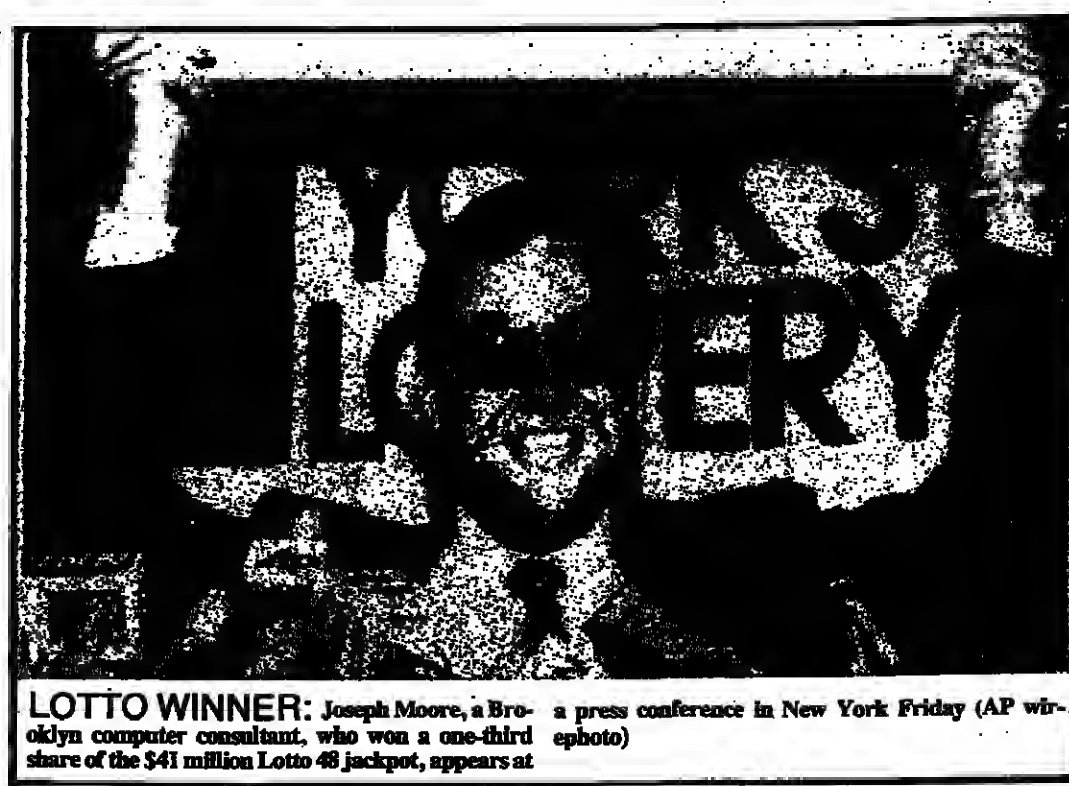
Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ K J 4	♥ 10	♠ A 9 7 2	♥ K Q 10 9 7 2
♦ A Q J 10 9 4	♣ Q J 10 8	♦ 4 3	♣ K 7 2
♠ 8 5 3	♥ A 6 5	♦ 9 7 5 2	♣ 8
SOUTH		WEST	
♠ Q 8 6 5	♥ A 6 5	♠ 10	♥ 2
♦ A 9 7 2	♣ K 7 2	♦ 4 3	♣ 8
♠ 8 5 3	♥ A 6 5	♦ 9 7 5 2	♣ 8
THE HIDING		THE PASS	
North	East	South	West
10	2	4	Pass
40	Pass	4	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠.

Trump Coup: Tommy had been on a business trip to London, a fact that was appreciated by all the members of those bridge clubs he visited, except the few who had the misfortune to be his partner. As you remember, Tommy is a walking bridge disaster except on those rare occasions when trumps break badly. Then he turns into a master of technique to land even the most difficult contracts.

In defence to his hosts, Tommy adopted the British style of bidding. North's jump to four diamonds agreed spades as trumps, and in the process showed a very good diamond suit. For once, Tommy was not in-



LOTTO WINNER: Joseph Moore, a Brooklyn computer consultant, who won a one-third share of the \$41 million Lotto 48 jackpot, appears at a press conference in New York Friday (AP wirephoto)

Ugandan rebels agree to peace talks

NAIROBI (R) — Uganda's rebel National Resistance Army (NRA) said Saturday it had agreed to a ceasefire in Uganda and would meet a delegation from Uganda's new military rulers in Nairobi on Monday.

An NRA statement issued here said the ceasefire had been accepted "to allow the process of peace to be pursued hopefully more seriously than hitherto."

Ugandan Defence Minister Col. Wilson Tuto told reporters in Kampala Friday that a four-man delegation was going to the Kenyan capital to try to persuade the NRA to join in peace efforts.

The NRA said Friday its forces in the Luwero Triangle north of Kampala had taken an "offensive stance" and several Uganda army units had surrendered to its forces.

The NRA said the Ugandan army command had since called for a ceasefire to which the NRA had agreed. "To minimise the sh-

ding of blood of innocent officers and men."

An NRA spokesman in Nairobi declined to expand on the statement or give details of any fighting.

There has been no official confirmation from Uganda of any clashes or surrender, although Col. Tuto said in answer to questions Friday night that he had received reports of NRA movements in western Uganda. The army was not sent in because the government wanted peace, he added.

The NRA, the biggest and best organised of the rebel groups that fought a bush war against deposed President Milton Obote, suspended hostilities after the army seized power on July 27. Efforts to organise peace talks have so far failed.

North Korean military advisers brought in by Mr. Obote four years ago to train the Ugandan army will return home shortly, a government spokesman said Friday.

India asks Tamil rebel leaders to leave

NEW DELHI (R) — India has ordered deported two top Sri Lankan Tamil guerrilla leaders in an effort to pressure Tamil separatists to join Indian-backed Sri Lanka peace talks, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said Saturday.

The order was issued within hours of a meeting Friday night in New Delhi between a Sri Lankan emissary, Hector Jayewardene, and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi held to discuss resumption of the talks in Bhutan.

The talks, aimed at easing the communal violence between majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils, broke down last Saturday amid renewed strife on the island.

PTI quoted Indian immigration sources as saying deportation orders were served Friday night on A.S. Balasingham, spokesman of

the hardline Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and S.C. Chandrasekaran, another militant guerrilla leader.

Both were ordered to leave within 48 hours, the sources said. The orders were served in Madras city where most separatist guerrilla organisations are based.

Mr. Balasingham is a British national of Sri Lankan Tamil origin. Both were told they could proceed to any country they chose, PTI said.

LTTE said police had taken Mr. Balasingham into custody, but police denied the charge.

LTTE also said in a statement the Indian action was aimed at pressuring the Tamil guerrillas to resume talks with preconditions.

The talks in Bhutan collapsed after Tamil groups walked out of the conference a week ago, ac-

using government troops of killing hundreds of Tamils on the island. The government has denied the charge.

The deportation move was described by LTTE as "politically motivated." A guerrilla spokesman said the group would not meet Mr. Gandhi to discuss resumption of the talks "until Balasingham is freed."

The Eelam National Liberation Front (ENLF) urged Mr. Gandhi to withdraw the deportation order on Mr. Balasingham, PTI said.

The ENLF, an umbrella organisation of four separatist Tamil guerrilla groups, sent a telegram to Mr. Gandhi saying it was distressed at the deportation order and feared Mr. Balasingham would be sent to Sri Lanka, PTI said.

French assembly passes Caledonia bill

PARIS (R) — France's Socialist government has claimed an important political victory after the opposition failed to derail its plans for the future of New Caledonia.

The Constitutional Council Friday night ended weeks of wrangling when it accepted a revised bill passed by a special session of parliament on Tuesday.

The legislation, paving the way for independence for the Pacific territory, had already been rejected once by the council. Political sources said a second refusal would have dealt a severe blow to President Francois Mitterrand's government.

Prime Minister Laurent Fabius said the decision was a categorical rebuff to the opposition, which said the second bill discriminated against the interests of white settlers.

The bill provides for elections for four new regional assemblies and a referendum on limited independence before the end of 1987.

Socialist officials were triumphant over the decision, describing it as a "slap in the face" for the right and the opposition-controlled Senate.

"Since this is not a success for the opposition it must be seen as a reverse," Socialist president of the National Assembly Louis Mermaz said.

Former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and other leading opposition figures had put their full weight behind last-ditch efforts to stop the bill, arguing that it favoured indigenous Kanak voters campaigning for independence.

They also accused Mr. Mit-

terrand of ignoring the constitution by calling an extraordinary session of parliament to debate the bill during the summer holidays.

Commentators said the constitutional wrangle was an important test of the president's legal powers ahead of parliamentary elections next year, which are expected to give the opposition a majority.

Mr. Mitterrand's term does not end until 1988 and there has been widespread debate over what prerogatives he would have in the face of a hostile National Assembly.

The council's ruling is likely to strengthen his hand, as it reaffirms the president's right to call for new parliamentary debate on a bill so long as the prime minister agrees.